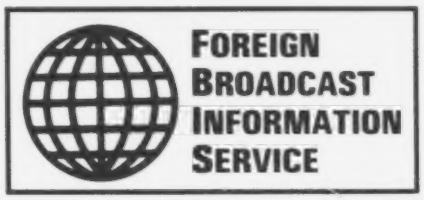

Daily Report

East Europe

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FBIS-EEU-88-004 *7 January 1988*

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Nako Presents Budget Report to Assembly

AU051456 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 29 Dec 87 pp 1, 3, and 4

[Report delivered by Minister of Finance Andrea Nako to the People's Assembly on 28 December: "On the Expected Fulfillment of the 1987 State Budget and the 1988 Draft State Budget"]

[Text] Comrade deputies: United like a single body around the party and its Central Committee led by Comrade Ramiz Alia, the working masses of our country worked with a higher degree of mobilization to implement the decisions of the Ninth AWP Congress and of the Central Committee plenums in order to fulfill the tasks in the economic and financial fields and to increase the profitability and efficiency of the economy. A number of measures have been adopted to further raise the level of organization, management, and of the financial and economic control, to improve the organizational structure of the financial and banking organs, and to improve the functioning of certain economic and financial instruments.

Implementing the party's and Comrade Enver Hoxha's teachings to tackle financial and economic facets of the economy in a coordinated manner and in unity with each other, our finances have become more stabile and have increased their active role. Compared with the previous year, the state budget income increased and the development of the economy, education, culture, science, the health service, and the country's defense was financed. The state budget met also the additional measures adopted to improve the state's relations with the agricultural cooperatives by improving certain prices pertaining to the procurement of agricultural and livestock products, as well as certain preferential measures concerning bank credits, which resulted in direct benefits for the agricultural cooperatives in the hilly and mountainous areas.

The development of the economy and of our finances is based entirely on our own internal material, financial, and foreign currency resources, and includes no form of aid or credit from outside. This correct Marxist-Leninist policy of our party induces us to be proud at all times, because everything has been built with our own sweat and efforts and we are obliged to no one for anything. The overwhelming majority of enterprises and agricultural cooperatives fulfilled and overfulfilled their financial income and their obligations to the state budget. As a result of the measures adopted to better follow up the inter-enterprise obligations and the increased efficiency in the utilization of short-term bank credits, the financial situation and paying ability have been marked by improvements. Although the income and profitability of the economy increased, compared with 1986, some of the enterprises in the energy system, agriculture, industry and mining, and in the light industry have failed to fulfill the state tasks pertaining to accumulation and profitability. Consequently, the state budget income is fulfilled at approximately 95 percent and the overall income in the agricultural cooperatives 91 percent.

The deficits in the financial indicators are a result not only of the nonfulfillments in production, construction, and in the service sectors, or of the difficulties created by the bitter winter and prolonged drought, but are also a result of subjective shortcomings related to the failure to properly follow up the fulfillment of financial plans, as well as to the failure to efficiently effect expenditure, particularly investments. With regard to the problems pertaining to planning, verifying, and following up production costs, an action was undertaken in all agricultural enterprises and cooperatives on the instruction of the Council of Ministers, and considerable improvements were made. But the reduction of costs demanded by the party has not been achieved everywhere to the required degree. Excessive material utilization norms are still observed among certain enterprises, as well as excessive norms pertaining to the wages fund. Cases of damage and waste are observed in some enterprises of the food industry, in the glass and ceramics industry, in the construction materials industry, and in some agricultural cooperatives.

A number of measures were adopted during 1987 to follow up and control losses in some enterprises, activities, and with regard to some products. On the basis of the analyses carried out by the enterprises, the executive committees of the people's councils, and the central departments themselves, the Council of Ministers defined in good time concrete measures to improve the situation. Consequently losses are about 20 percent below the previous year's figures, and in some mines, in the antibiotics factory in Tirana, and so forth, losses are even below the planned level. Nevertheless, owing to production deficits and increased production expenditure, some enterprises have been operating at a loss that is higher than planned, while other enterprises, which were supposed to have surpluses, have effected losses, transforming themselves into unplanned absorbers of accumulation funds. The Council of Ministers has adopted measures to improve the management and the financial and economic administration of these enterprises in order to assure an increased efficiency of production expenditure and in order to provide them with better qualified assistance, particularly by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Energy, and the Ministry of Construction, as well as by the People's Council Executive Committees in the Districts of Kruje, Durres, and Fier.

In the course of implementing the directives of the AWP Central Committee, the Council of Ministers has instructed the state, economic, financial, and bank organs at all levels to carry out a profound analysis of the 1987 plan and budget fulfillment, to draw conclusions, and to determine measures and ways to eliminate shortcomings and to properly commence the work of fulfilling the 1988 tasks.

Comrade deputies: The general draft financial plan and draft state budget for 1988, which the Council of Ministers is hereby presenting for approval, have been drafted on the basis of the directives of the Ninth AWP Congress and on the real possibilities of our economy.

The draft budget for the coming year has been drafted with the broad participation of the working collectives, specialists, and cadres who, in addition to the problems pertaining to production, construction, and the service sector, have also made valuable contributions with regard to its financial aspects.

The 1988 draft state budget contains certain distinguishing characteristics: - In conformity with the objectives of the 5-year plan, the overall financial income of the state will increase at a relatively high rate, 14.7 percent, compared with the expected results in 1987, being given priority over the increase in the general social product and the national income. The application of this principle in the major indicators of our socialist reproduction reflects that turning point required in the field of production efficiency, in accordance with the targets of our 5-year plan.

- The 1988 draft state budget and financial indicators have been better coordinated and harmonize with the economic and technical indicators of the plan and provide a higher guarantee, which reflects the elevation of the standard of economic and financial planning at all levels.

- The 1988 draft state budget is permeated throughout by a strict regimen of thrift and is characterized by a more efficient and stringent utilization of financial resources. Stringent tasks have been stipulated to effect savings in all sectors of the economy.

- The 1988 draft state budget reflects more concretely the party's instruction to spend less than is earned, the aim being to further increase and strengthen the country's material, financial, and foreign currency reserves.

- The centralized financial policy is better harmonized in the 1988 draft state budget with the increased degree of responsibility, initiative, and independent action of enterprises, through the utilization of their internal accumulation resources to finance part of the needs stipulated in the draft plan pertaining to the development of their economic and financial activity, thus making their expenditure conditional on their income.

The 1988 draft state budget presented for approval provides for 9.5 billion leks in income and 9.45 billion leks in expenditure, with a surplus of 50 million leks.

The greatest portion of the state budget income, 67 percent, is accounted for by the net state centralized income and by the surplus in the net income of enterprises, which constitute the two main channels for the mobilization of the income from our socialist economy.

The fundamental prerequisite to meet the objectives in the financial field lies, primarily, in the effort to fulfill the planned economic tasks in every cell of the economy throughout the entire system of quantitative and qualitative indicators and with the stipulated degree of efficiency. The Council of Ministers has demanded that the ministries and other central institutions, the district executive committees, and the financial and bank organs, adopt all the necessary organizational and technical measures. They are also tasked to further raise financial control achieving the all-round fulfillment of the tasks stipulated in the 1988 draft plan and draft budget by every enterprise, agricultural cooperative, and institution.

Considerable tasks have been also stipulated concerning cost reductions, from which the larger portion of the increase in the net income of enterprises is expected.

The main way of reducing costs remains the adoption of concrete measures to effect palpable savings in the utilization of raw and other materials, fuel, and electricity. The Council of Ministers has stipulated concrete measures to establish and apply progressive and scientific norms of consumption for every unit of production, particularly the more important ones, such as electricity, coal, coking coal, metallurgical coke, natural and accompanying gas, gazoil, raw materials for the light and food industries, construction materials, and so forth, as well as certain measures to improve production technologies and the complex utilization of raw materials in general. The struggle against damage and the misuse of raw and other materials, fuel, and labor will be intensified, such damage and misuse being observed in various enterprises and branches of the economy. The Council of Ministers has instructed the economic and state organs to specify concrete ways of guaranteeing that such savings are effected, tackling these matters profoundly and responsibly during the initial stages of the discussion of the 1988 tasks at the level of working collectives, and to systematically follow up their implementation.

In order to meet the targets in efficiency and while implementing the tasks set out by the fourth AWP Central Committee plenum and Comrade Ramiz Alia's valuable instructions, the Council of Ministers will further intensify its efforts to perfect organization and management at all levels and in every cell of the economy and to utilize the powerful material and technical base that has been created in the most rational way possible. The Ministry of Industry and Mines, the Ministry of Light Industry, and the Ministry of the Food Industry, as well as the district people's council executive committees, should follow up these problems carefully and with a particular sense of responsibility, because owing to subjective causes and lack of coordination, machinery, equipment, and production lines remain unused in some enterprises.

Financial indicators in the agricultural cooperatives are also expected to rise on the basis of the increase in agricultural and livestock products. The 1988 overall

income, compared with the expected 1987 results, will increase 13 percent. By stipulating concrete tasks for the improved administration of labor and materials, the agricultural cooperatives expect to raise their net income by 20.3 percent and the value of a day's work by 13.2 percent. The proportion between the accumulation and consumption funds will also be improved.

The participation of the state in investments for the higher-type cooperatives, as well as for cooperatives in the hilly and mountainous regions, is also expected to be increased, while the State Bank will provide about 5 percent more resources in the form of short-term and long-term credits. The Council of Ministers is expected to adopt measures to ensure that the state and economic organs further intensify their organizational and managerial work to ensure efficient utilization of these funds. The banking organs should further strengthen their financial control through credits by checking on the work carried out, particularly in the livestock and horticultural sectors, to ensure the fulfillment of plans on time and in accordance with the stipulated quantity, quality, and profitability.

In order to reach the party's targets pertaining to the supply and living standards of the people in the cities and in the countryside, the Council of Ministers is expected to adopt special measures concerning monetary circulation in order to meet the population's purchasing power with goods and services, this being a fundamental question of the party's economic policy. The state, economic, and financial organs have been given tasks concerning the further strengthening of controls on the fulfillment of production plans in accordance with planned volumes and structures, and for the timely distribution of commodities. The trade organs, in particular, should direct production better than has been the case to date, in accordance with the demands of the urban and rural population, in order to increase the production of small items from technological waste, as well as the production of new commodities required by the population. The fulfillment of turnover plans by the trade sector does not constitute an aim in itself, but must be related to the improvement of supplies and services, particularly in the catering sector.

Measures have been adopted for the organizational consolidation and the further elevation of the role of the State Bank, which will use financial assets and their circulation better than hitherto, as a powerful instrument of analysis, control, and study to improve the organization and scientific management of production, to strengthen preventive measures in the channels of the creation of purchasing power, and to propose and adopt timely measures to cover this purchasing power with goods and services in the required volume and structure.

Compared with 1987, the expenditure stipulated in the 1988 draft state budget is increased by 5.1 percent. Priority is to be given to financing the development of the socialist economy. The state budget and the internal resources of the enterprises themselves are expected to finance about 12 percent more expenditure than in 1987, or about 54 percent of the total state budget expenditure in 1988. In addition to financing the development of the energy sector and of those branches of industry producing means of production, in accordance with the decisions of the third AWP Central Committee plenum, the Council of Ministers has stipulated the necessary funds to support the further development of those branches of the economy producing mass consumer commodities, as well as to those branches providing services for the population. The budget expenditure for the agricultural sector will be about 7 percent more than the expected figure for 1987, the expenditure for the light and food industry will be increased by about 32 percent, the expenditure allocated for the communal services sector will be about 11 percent more, and so forth.

In using this expenditure, the implementation of all the measures stipulated to increase their efficiency is required, particularly in the investment field. The Council of Ministers has stipulated a number of tasks to be carried out by the investing, designing, and construction organs to ensure that the projects stipulated in the 1988 draft plan should be commenced and completed within the specified time schedule and at the lowest possible cost, that they may fully support the measures intended to increase production and accumulation.

The budget expenditure intended to increase the increased norms pertaining to the turnover assets of enterprises, which had been set at a lower rate than the increase in production, will undergo a strict regimen of thrift. The Council of Ministers has set out specific tasks to the ministries and to the district executive committees concerning the increased efficiency of turnover assets through the introduction of norms (mbinormativa) for materials and commodities with slow circulation, of which there are stocks in certain enterprises and sectors of the economy, because owing to the slow circulation of turnover assets in particular sectors and enterprises their production efficiency has been lowered. Production per unit of turnover assets has been below plan.

As a result of the measures that have been adopted, the number of enterprises operating at a loss will be reduced to the minimum and the same applies to the sum total of losses financed by the budget. The Council of Ministers will systematically follow up the implementation of the tasks delivered to the ministries and districts to assure greater accountability and to tighten every "tap" that leads to effecting expenditure that does not lead to increased production and income, to eliminate excessive and cross transportation, and to continually improve the qualitative production indicators.

The 1988 draft state budget will support with sufficient assets the development of education, culture, science, social security, and other needs of a social and cultural nature. This sector has been allocated 29.1 percent of the total state budget expenditure.

The 1988 draft state budget also stipulates the necessary financial assets needed to increase the country's defense potential, which will represent 11.4 percent of the state budget expenditure, while the expenditure allocated to the state administration represents only 1.7 percent of the total state budget expenditure. The Council of Ministers has instructed the state organs to examine the possibility of further reducing this expenditure.

Under the party's solicitude, the competence of the people's councils at all levels has been continually increased and strengthened. The competence of the people's councils have also been expanded in the field of the state budget and they have been allocated the necessary financial assets to carry out the important functions with which they have been entrusted. The 1988 draft state budget allocates 4.12 billion leks for the budget expenditure of the people's councils at district and lower levels, which represents 41 percent of the total state budget expenditure, compared with 34 percent in 1981.

The Council of Ministers has stipulated that the district people's council executive committees should further improve the organizational and managerial work to ensure the fulfillment of the plan and budget by every enterprise and agricultural cooperative; that they should increase their concrete assistance and their demands for accountability. More studies and analyses are required from them with regard to the economic and financial development of the districts. Measures will be adopted to further strengthen control over investments, bearing in mind that they should serve to increase production and services for the population.

In the course of implementing the directives of the AWO Central Committee and the decisions of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, the Council of Ministers has adopted and will continue to adopt a number of measures pertaining to the administration of property in every cell and at all levels of the economy. These measures concern the ensuring of suitable storage areas and the documentation of the movement of material assets at all stages of the production and distribution process. Measures have also been adopted to strengthen control through accountancy, through its improvement, as well as through its concentrated and automated processing. Within the next 2-3 years, economic data processing centers will be created in all districts. Measures are also being adopted to further increase the control and preventive power of the specialized economic and financial control and auditing organs in the enterprises, cooperatives, districts, departments, and right up to the Ministry of Finances and the State Control Commission.

The state and economic organs at all levels are confronted with the task of intensifying measures to bar the way to damage and abuse of property and to violations of financial discipline, which are still observed in the enterprises of some branches of the economy, as in the trade sector, agriculture, and in the light and food industries. The consolidation of internal control in every unit of the economy retains fundamental importance in this process. This must be considered an indivisible part of the method of management in order to become "a strong fence" preventing in good time weaknesses in the administration of property.

The Council of Ministers has drawn the attention of the departments and of the people's council executive committees to regularly carry out periodic economic and financial analyses at brigade level, factories, enterprises, in the executive committees themselves, the collegiums of central departments and ministries, because, despite improvements, there are still manifestations of formalism, shallow or even tardy work in carrying out these analyses.

The state and economic organs, as well as the financial and banking organs, should intensify their efforts to carry out the economic and financial analyses in a timely manner and qualitatively, that they may serve as an efficient way of improving matters and results in fulfilling the tasks of the plan and budget.

Comrade deputies: The draft state budget presented to you for examination and approval fully supports with financial assets the 1988 plan for the country's economic and social development.

The tasks set out in this plan are solid, mobilizing, and revolutionary, but they are at the same time well argued and fully feasible. This requires efforts and comprehensive organization by all sectors of the economy to fulfill the plan and to raise the efficiency and profitability of production, utilizing the numerous reserves that exist in the economy.

In particular, the implementation of the state budget poses considerable tasks before the organs of the financial, banking, and control system to further improve their method of work, to follow up the economic and financial indicators, to administer socialist property, and to strengthen financial discipline. They must also increase their efforts to further raise their active role through the entire process of expanded socialist reproduction.

The Council of Ministers is convinced that, under the wise and farsighted leadership of the party, with Comrade Ramiz Alia in the lead, and with the comprehensive mobilization of the workers class, the cooperativist peasantry, and of all the working masses in the country, the tasks established by the draft economic and financial plan and the draft state budget for 1988 will become a reality.

Planning Commission Presents Budget Report

AU061800 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 29 Dec 87 pp 1 and 4

[Report of the Permanent Planning and Budget Commission of the People's Assembly presented by Deputy Luan Babameto on 28 December]

[Text] Through two reports the Council of Ministers presented to this session of the People's Assembly for examination and approval the 1988 draft plan and draft budget. They are both based on the existing human, material, financial, and foreign currency possibilities, and on those that will be created in 1988. The drafts were studied with particular attention by all the commissions of the People's Assembly. Before the meeting of the commissions, the deputies examined the work carried out by the state and economic organs at the center and at the base with regard to the fulfillment of the 1987 plan and budget. At the same time they exchanged opinions with workers, cooperativists, cadres, and specialists in various production sectors concerning the 1988 draft state plan and budget. The deputies also demanded explanations from the State Planning Commission, the Ministry of Finances, and various other departments concerning the fulfillment of the 1987 plan and budget.

The analyses carried out by the commissions appreciated this year's achievements and criticized the shortcomings observed from the ministries to the district people's council executive committees with regard to the need for greater initiative and adroitness, stricter control, and a greater understanding of the demands of the plan and budget laws. The commissions also asked for explanations by the comrades who were called in, concerning the concrete measures to be adopted for the comprehensive fulfillment of the 1988 plan and budget tasks.

In agreement with the other commissions of the People's Assembly, the Plan and Budget Commission approves the draft plan and budget presented. We believe, however, that it is worth expressing some opinions to further improve next year's work.

The fulfillment of the 1988 plan requires the complete fulfillment of the tasks established by the party to strengthen the regimen of thrift and to raise economic efficiency in all fields, but particularly with regard to the thrifty utilization of raw materials, investments, nonproductive expenditure, and so forth. The positive experience of numerous enterprises and agricultural cooperatives in this field has brought to the surface numerous reserves and possibilities to effect savings. Thus, following a partial reexamination of the estimates for the construction of the Milot-Rreshen railroad, the investment funds for this project have been reduced by approximately 50 million leks; the administrative expenditure for the current year, on the national level, has been reduced by 27 million leks, and so forth. The initiative of the workers of the "Steel of the Party" Metallurgical Combine in Elbasan for the production of new types of steels and their utilization by the engineering industry is of great value, but the combine must further improve its technologies and the quality of these steels, because it is still weak. This has led to the exceeding of norms of utilization by the country's engineering plants. The initiative adopted by numerous engineering plants to produce machinery and equipment for the projects of the 5-year plan through their own efforts is also praiseworthy, but this must not be allowed to create concern, on the other hand, with regard to the production of spare parts, their quantity and quality. Thus, the "Enver Hoxha" Automobile and Tractor Combine has fulfilled its plan as a whole, but has created deficits concerning the production of spare parts, as a result of which hundreds of tractors and vehicles have remained idle for lengthier periods.

Increased efficient use of investment funds should be one of the main directions of the work of the investment, design, and construction organs. In the course of implementing the task established by the Council of Ministers to reduce the cost of projects planned for 1988, attention must be drawn additionally to the need to effect savings also with regard to other investment items, in machinery, drilling equipment in the oil and mining sectors, nonproductive projects, and so forth, where the possibilities and reserves are not inconsiderable.

In the field of investments, all the concerned organs should further strengthen control in those directions related to the highest possible efficient use of such funds, because experience has shown that the plan includes not an inconsiderable number of projects without the necessary technical documentation. Meanwhile, it is necessary to insist more forcibly on achieving the required degree of the efficiency of investments as rapidly as is possible. It is impermissible for the Ministry of Transportation to allow a situation in which, although the Milot-Rreshen railroad has been completed and even inaugurated its use as a way of transporting commodities has not started. The commission is also of the opinion that, through better work on the state and economic organs in strengthening the regimen of thrift, some headings of the budget could be reduced. The effort to reduce the number of and eliminate loss-making enterprises, for example, constitutes a considerable reserve. There is no reason, in the agricultural sector, why production expenditure is 99 percent effected, the planned income is fulfilled at only 90 percent. The state and economic organs at the center and at the base should make a greater effort in this direction, but it is particularly necessary for the Ministry of Finances, the State Bank, and the districts of Tirana, Diber, Korce, and Kruje, which have more problems in this field, to intervene and adopt the necessary measures.

Considerable reserves are also to be found in the economizing of raw and other materials, as well as in moving stocks and slow-moving commodities more rapidly.

The state and economic organs at both the center and at the base must follow up the comprehensive implementation of the plan. Despite the difficult climatic conditions that persisted in the current year, agricultural enterprises and cooperatives worked with a high sense of responsibility and, consequently the tasks of wheat production were fulfilled satisfactorily. The fulfillment of the tasks concerning the creation and consolidation of

small herds at brigade level for milk production in the districts of Lushnje, Fier, and so forth, was of great ideological, political, and economic value. It is therefore essential that the state and economic organs at the center and at the base should support and encourage this movement of the cooperativist peasantry in order to attain the target established by the party to cut off the supply of the rural population from the concentrated herds within 1988.

One of the most important problems concerns the knowledge and dissemination of advanced experience in the work of the state and economic organs. Positive experience exists everywhere, in the districts, agricultural cooperatives, enterprises, and so forth. But it is observed that the work to disseminate this experience is frequently empirical, superficial, and without clear goals. Everyone speaks enthusiastically about the work being done by Servet Kosiqi's brigade in Diber District to achieve yields of up to 300 quintals of corn per hectare, but the Ministry of Agriculture, our scientific institutions, and the state organs in the districts are slow in propagating this experience. The fact that in some districts, as in Lushnje, Vlore, Durres, Sarande, and so forth, the wheat sowing campaign was not completed on time owing to organizational shortcomings, also does not correspond with the 1988 tasks concerning grain production.

The Plan and Budget Commission is of the opinion that the time has arrived to generalize the experience of Elbasan District in the field of perfecting planning, this being a considerable reserve in increasing production. The fact that the district fulfilled its agricultural tasks better than other districts with comparable conditions in the agricultural sector dictates the need to disseminate its experience as soon as possible.

In the course of implementing the law and the tasks established by the Presidium of the People's Assembly and the Council of Ministers concerning the protection and administration of socialist property, the state and economic organs at the center and at the base have adopted certain measures and work is going everywhere to strengthen control in this field. But problems still exist and this requires more energetic intervention and organizational measures leading to the prevention of the negative phenomena observed. More complete measures are thereby needed to establish full, precise, and controllable documentation throughout the entire process of production and distribution, to protect economic institutions, to improve material consumption norms, and so forth. We say this because concern continues to exist in this field, particularly in some sectors of the economy, in the light and food industries, in agriculture, in domestic trade, the communal economy, and so forth, where the damage, abuse, and theft of socialist property are relatively considerable. This requires a tightening of state control at every level of management, as well as of control by specialized organs, and particularly of internal control, which is also the weakest link.

With the party's directives, Comrade Enver Hoxha's teachings, and Comrade Ramiz Alia's instructions to guide them, the workers class, the cooperativist peasantry, the cadres, and the specialists will continue to increase their mobilization in 1988 to fulfill all the plan and budget tasks and to achieve increasingly higher results in all fields.

We invite you, comrade deputies, to approve the draft state plan and state budget unanimously.

People's Assembly Approves State Budget

AU051718 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 30 Dec 87 p 1

["Law on the 1988 State Budget"]

[Text] On the basis of Article 67 of the Constitution, and on the proposal of the Council of Ministers, the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania has decreed:

Article 1 [subhead]

The state budget for 1988 submitted by the Council of Ministers of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania has been approved as follows:

Income	9 billion 500 billion leks
Expenditure	9 billion 450 million leks
Surplus:	50 million leks

Article 2 [subhead]

The overall income from the socialist economy (productive sector) in the 1988 state budget is set at 9 billion 140 million leks.

Article 3 [subhead]

The overall income from the nonproductive sector (from scientific institutions, kindergartens, children's nurseries, cinemas, theaters, etc.) and other income from the socialist sector in 1988 is set at 360 million leks.

Article 4 [subhead]

The overall expenditure for financing the socialist economy, further developing industry, mining and geology, energy, agriculture, transportation, the communal economy, and other branches of the economy in the 1988 state budget is set at 5 billion 82 million leks, apart from the expenditure to be covered by the resources of enterprises themselves.

Article 5 [subhead]

The overall expenditure for financing measures of a social and cultural nature, for children's kindergartens, 8-grade elementary schools, low-level vocational schools, general and vocational secondary schools, the university and institutes of higher education, libraries, radio, television, theaters, children's nurseries, hospitals, sanatoria, sports, pensions, grants for mothers of many children, and other social and cultural measures in the 1988 state budget is set at 2 billion 747 leks.

Article 6 [subhead]

For national defense the 1988 state budget sets aside 1 billion 60 million leks.

Article 7 [subhead]

For the maintenance of the administrative apparatus the 1988 state budget sets aside 161 million leks.

Article 8 [subhead]

For the budget of the district people's councils in 1988 the sum of 4,120,300,000 has been approved, divided according to district as follows:

Berat District	201,500,000 leks
Diber District	151,800,000 leks
Durres District	297,300,000 leks
Elbasan District	265,800,000 leks
Fier District	247,900,000 leks
Gjirokaster District	126,900,000 leks
Gramsh District	77,950,000 leks
Kolonje District	48,900,000 leks
Korce District	250,500,000 leks
Kruje District	112,500,000 leks
Kukes District	115,150,000 leks
Lezhe District	77,000,000 leks
Librazhd District	72,700,000 leks
Lushnje District	156,800,000 leks
Mat District	102,900,000 leks
Mirdite District	75,100,000 leks
Permet District	61,700,000 leks
Pogradec District	97,000,000 leks
Puke District	68,200,000 leks
Sarande District	148,600,000 leks
Shkoder District	280,000,000 leks
Skrapar District	77,150,000 leks
Tepelene District	76,200,000 leks
Tirana District	592,000,000 leks
Tropoje District	73,050,000 leks
Vlore District	265,700,000 leks

Article 9 [subhead]

The final state budget for 1986 is approved, as follows:

Income	8,882,876,113.35 leks
Expenditure	8,869,918,113.35 leks
Surplus	12,958,000.00 leks

Article 10 [subhead]

The Council of Ministers will work out the details of the income and expenditure of the state budget for the ministries, central institutions, and executive committees of people's councils in the districts and will undertake measures to ensure its implementation.

Article 11 [subhead]

The law comes into force on 1 January 1988.

Tirana, 29 December 1987.

Number of law: 7187.

Sihat Tozaj, secretary of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

Press Comments on British Royal Finances

AU071118 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 4 Jan 88 p 4

[Fatmir Dibra article: "Help for the Queen"]

[Text] The sensational event was at once taken up by the press: The British queen has suddenly and unimaginably become "impoverished." This amazed everybody beyond measure. Many people thought it "the lie of the day," or "a harmless joke." However as the news spread at lightning speed, the first figures appeared in the British press. Indeed, according to all the figures published, it emerged that the queen had become impoverished. In the view of financial experts, the capital at the queen's disposal amounted to no more than 3 billion pounds sterling. Then everybody set about replenishing her depleted coffers. With maximum speed the British Parliament approved an additional grant of 5,289,000 pounds sterling, of which 4.3 million were given to the queen at once. This was an additional grant of 4.5 percent compared with the previous year.

However, these additional sums to maintain the prestige of "the richest woman in the world" required financial funding. The rational view that taxes must be increased was at once put forward. There were also a few faint-hearted voices to claim that this would increase the number of people living below the official poverty line, but other members of parliament thrust these to one side. After all what business was it of theirs whether

poverty rose or fell? As long as smoke rises from the royal hearth, other people will adjust. According to data in the press, the number of the poor has increased by almost 3 million since 1979, while the number of unemployed has reached the post-war record figure of 3.5 million. Better then to help the queen than deal with such commonplace and dull things as creating jobs.

Alia Greets Zimbabwe's Mugabe on Election

AU070909 Tirana ATA in English
0740 GMT 7 Jan 88

[Text] Tirana, January 7 (ATA)—The president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, Comrade Ramiz Alia, sent the following message of greetings to the president of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe:

"On the occasion of your election to the higher post of the president of the Republic of Zimbabwe, it is my pleasure to send you my warmest greetings and wishes.

"I express my conviction that the friendly relations existing between Albania and Zimbabwe will further develop in the future, to the benefit of our two peoples and the struggle against imperialism, neocolonialism and racism."

Alia, Carcani, Greet Cambodian Leaders

AU070911 Tirana ATA in English
0730 GMT 7 Jan 88

[Text] Tirana, January 7 (ATA)—Comrade Ramiz Alia, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania and president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, and Comrade Adil Carcani, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, sent the following message of greetings to the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary People's Party of Cambodia and chairman of the State Council, Heng Samrin; and the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Cambodia, Hun Sen:

"On occasion of the national day of the Cambodian people, on behalf of the Albanian people, the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania, the Presidium of the People's Assembly, the Council of Ministers of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, as well as in our names, we convey to you and the Cambodian people our cordial greetings and wishes.

"The Albanian people and their government have always cherished feelings of sincere friendship for the Cambodian people and have supported their just struggle to defend the freedom and independence from the attacks of imperialism and reaction. They wish successes in consolidating the victories attained in the development of economy and national culture and the defence of the homeland.

"We express our conviction that the friendly relations between our two countries will further develop in the future to the common interest of our two peoples."

Prague Spring Leaders Lash Post-68 Government
AU061422 Paris AFP in English
1320 GMT 6 Jan 88

[Excerpt] Prague, Jan 6 (AFP)—Leading officials behind Czechoslovakia's "Prague Spring" of 1968, which was crushed by a Soviet-led invasion, on Wednesday backed the reforming endeavour of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and drew a comparison between the two movements.

A statement issued by 43 senior officials in the pre-1968 Czechoslovak Communist Party, said the "substance" of the Gorbachev programme was "comparable" with the reforms that the Prague government had sought nearly 20 years earlier.

The new Soviet line offers good possibilities for other socialist countries "where the conditions for deep-seated reforms have ripened," the text added.

It lashed the pro-Moscow government that took power in Prague after the invasion, saying its "policy of so-called normalisation" had been only a "Czechoslovak variation of the policy of stagnation" that prevailed under former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev.

The signatories, who included former Minister Jiri Hajek, Vladimir Kadlec and Ludmila Jankovcova, as well as Venek Silhan, deputy to former Communist Party Chief Alexander Dubcek, also urged the end to all "measures of repression and discrimination" against the leaders of the "Prague Spring." [passage omitted]

Srp Said Released After 'Massive Protests'
AU071010 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German
7 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] After massive protests by human rights groups, the CSSR authorities have prematurely released from custody Karel Srp, a well-known civil rights activist. In March 1987 Srp had been sentenced to 16 months in prison.

RUDE PRAVO Carries Jakes Biography
WA061858 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
18 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] Comrade Milos Jakes was born on 12 August 1922 in Ceske Chalupy, Cesky Krumlov District, in a small farmer's family. Having finished his basic education, he became an apprentice in electromechanics, then worked as a fitter and, subsequently, as a design engineer at the Svit national enterprise in Gottwaldov. While employed, he graduated from an industrial academy. His class consciousness and political attitudes were shaped by the working-class environment.

In June 1945, shortly after the liberation of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet Army, he joined the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. He performed party functions at the Svit national enterprise in Gottwaldov. He was a member of the Presidium of the District Committee and the Kraj Committee of the CPCZ in Gottwaldov. He also actively participated in the work of the youth movement: as chairman of the District and the Kraj Committees of the Czechoslovak Youth Union and as member of the presidium of the Central Committee of the Union.

In various functions, he was active in national committees and in 1950 was elected chairman of the Unified National Committee in Gottwaldov, where he remained until 1952. He took an active part in the socialization of villages. Subsequently, he assumed the function of Secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Youth Union. In 1955, he was sent to Moscow to study at the College of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee. After graduation in 1958, he became head of a department of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee. In 1961, he was appointed head of the Central Office for National Committees Affairs. Beginning with 1963, he was first deputy chairman of the Central Administration for the Development of Local Economy. In 1966-1968 he was deputy minister of the Czechoslovak Ministry of Interior with responsibility for its Civil Administration Section.

In March 1968, he was elected chairman of the Central Control and Revision Commission of the CPCZ, of which he had been a member since 1966. In the crisis years, at the time of a manifest rally of antisocialist and counterrevolutionary forces, Comrade Jakes stood firmly on the positions of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, resolutely defending the interests of the party and the people. Once again, in this complex period, he proved his political maturity and his warm relation to the Soviet Union. He shared actively in the effort to overcome the crisis in the party and in society, in the solution of problems that had grown in number. His contribution to the endeavor to restore the Marxist-Leninist character of the Czechoslovak Communist Party is significant.

In 1977 he was co-opted to the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee and elected alternate member of the Presidium and secretary of the Communist Party Central Committee. In this function, he was concerned with party work in the area of agriculture and food. Since 1981 he has been member of the Presidium, secretary of the Party Central Committee, and chairman of the National Economic Commission of the Central Committee. Since 1971 he has been deputy of the House of the Peoples, and since 1981, a member of the Presidium of the Federal Assembly.

By assuming responsibility in party, state, and public functions, he has significantly contributed to the successful establishment of socialism in our country. He has spared no effort in implementing the program of economic and social development of the CSSR and in improving the management of the national economy. He takes an active part in the solution of questions on the

restructuring of the economic mechanism and to the democratization of our social life as well as in the acceleration of scientific and technological progress. He pays systematic attention to the intensification of socialist economic integration and to the development of economic, scientific, and technological cooperation with the Soviet Union and with the other states of the socialist community as well.

Through his extensive political and organizational work, his constant contacts with the working people, he helps to strengthen their trust in the party and in the socialist order. His activities have been instrumental in reinforcing the friendship of our fraternal peoples, the Czechs and the Slovaks, and of the nationalities living in our country.

Comrade Milos Jakes' sustained work of many years for the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and for the advance of our socialist society has been honored by the Order of February 25, Order of Labor, Order of the Republic, Order of the Victorious February, honorary title of Hero of Socialist Labor, and the Klement Gottwald Order. He has also been awarded the Soviet October Revolution Order and a number of other foreign decorations.

CPCZ CC Presidium Discusses 1988 Party Tasks

LD062317 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1700 GMT 6 Jan 88

[Text] A session of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium today discussed and approved the plan of the main tasks of the Party Central Committee's bodies for this year, based on the political and organizational arrangements for the implementation of the conclusions of the 17th party congress and the subsequent party Central Committee sessions, in particular the seventh session and its resolution on the comprehensive restructuring of the economic mechanism and the enhancement of socialist democracy.

It went on to discuss the draft principles of the social security law that has been drawn up by the Federal Government on the basis of the joint resolution of the Party Central Committee Presidium, the Federal Government, the Central Trade Union Council Presidium and the Central Committee Presidium of the Socialist Youth Union on the implementation of the conclusions of the 17th party congress in the social sphere, passed in April 1987. At present our social security provides social benefits to 3.4 million pensioners, 4.5 million children, and all citizens who are sick. The total volume of social security payments since 1970 has more than doubled, and in 1986 it amounted to Kcs 86 billion. In keeping with the real creation of resources, social security payments will increase by Kcs 8.6 billion in 1990. They will go into effect 1 October 1988. Fundamental measures are expected to be introduced to improve pension levels, both pensions already being paid and newly awarded pensions. The new measures aim to give due credit to the work of the older generations who played the greatest part—often in difficult conditions—in building socialist society in the postwar years and who were instrumental in creating our national wealth. The draft principles of the social security law, which the party Central Committee Presidium approved, will be presented to the Federal Assembly.

The Party Central Committee Presidium also discussed measures to improve the level of services in the Eighth 5-Year Plan [1986-1990] and to restructure their economic mechanism. It criticized the fact that despite certain positive results, it has not been possible to achieve any fundamental improvement in the development of services. It stressed that the growing demands of the citizens make it vital to strive for marked progress in raising the quality and expanding the range of services. This is the aim of the measures adopted by the Federal, Czech, and Slovak Governments to streamline the organizational structure and increase the financial autonomy of service organizations and enterprises in self-financing and full cost-accounting conditions. Their economic plan will be based primarily on a survey of market needs, public demand for services, and economic contracts and orders. The Presidium stressed that it is vital to substantially improve the activity of existing service enterprises and organizations; make greater use of opportunities for setting up small enterprises, businesses administered by the national committees and small cooperatives; make business premises available for economic renting out to citizens; and extend citizens' individual participation in services on the basis of authorization by the national committees. The Presidium also stressed that it is an urgent task of the central state administration bodies and national committees to create the all-around conditions for the effective development of services and local production.

The Presidium also discussed the results of a follow-up check carried out by the Party Central Control and Auditing Commission on how Communists, managers and party organizations in the Czech Ministry of Industry are fulfilling the tasks of the 17th party congress, and the measures adopted to increase the effectiveness and quality of production for domestic and foreign trade needs. The Party Central Committee Presidium instructed party members in the Ministry of Industry to substantially increase the effectiveness of their management, long-term planning, and cadre work. It instructed the Federal and Czech Governments to adopt fundamental measures to restore production dynamism and efficiency in this sphere in the remaining years of the Eighth 5-Year Plan, and to attain faster progress, above all in using resources for the development of science and technology in order to reduce the material, energy, financial, [fondovy] and labor intensiveness of production, and in modernizing and restructuring selected development programs in order to ensure that the projected parameters in capital investment are adhered to. The Presidium gave instructions for more decisive arrangements to be made for ensuring the supply of types

of goods in high demand to the domestic market, including high-quality and fashionable goods. It is up to the ministry's party organizations to be critical and rigorous in applying its political, organizational, ideological, educational and supervisory activity so that party members set an example in fulfilling resolutions.

The Party Central Committee Presidium also discussed a report on the activity of the party Central Committee's Political High School and its tasks following the 17th congress. It reviewed the school's role in training party cadres, and set out the directions and tasks for the further development of the school, particularly in the context of elaborating and implementing the conclusions of the 17th party congress.

The results of the official friendly visit by the Czechoslovak minister of foreign affairs to Poland were discussed. The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium noted with satisfaction that relations between the two countries are successfully developing and deepening.

Use of Party Secret Ballot Discussed
AU011504 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 30 Dec 87 pp 1,2

[Interview with Frantisek Klima, chief of the Party Structure and Statutes Section in the CPCZ Central Committee Political Organization Department, by Vaclav Pergl: "Secret Ballot—An Important Contribution to the Development of Internal Party Democracy;" place and date of interview not specified; opening paragraph is newspaper's introduction]

[Excerpts] At its session on 17 December, the CPCZ Central Committee Secretariat discussed the course of action in electing party agencies and their functionaries at annual members meetings of primary organizations, all-plenary meetings, conferences, and the constituent sessions of party agencies in 1988. We have discussed with Comrade Frantisek Klima, chief of the Party Structure and Statutes Section in the CPCZ Central Committee Political Organization Department, some practical implications of the resolution of the CPCZ Central Committee Secretariat for the preparation of the forthcoming annual members meetings in terms of cadre issues.

[Pergl] It is generally known that both secret ballot and public voting will be applied at the annual members meetings of party organizations. Does this not conflict with the valid party statutes?

[Klima] No. The CPCZ Statutes do not set the manner of elections. This allows every party organization to decide whether the annual meeting ballot should be secret or not. This is explicitly stated in the Resolution of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium on Annual Members Meetings and Party Conferences in 1988, which has already been published in [the CPCZ fortnightly] ZIVOT STRANY. In accordance with the Resolution of the Fifth Session of the CPCZ Central Committee (and Gustav Husak's opening speech at that session), the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium thereby expressed with this decision its efforts to apply internal party democracy on a broader scale. Party members and delegates will themselves determine how to vote.

[Pergl] But many party members point out that the creed of every Communist should be to take a public stand always and everywhere. What is the point of having a secret ballot then?

[Klima] The very phrasing of the question, which refers to what things should be like, suggests that this is not always the case. We must therefore use this reality as our point of departure. The frank expression of views is not only up to the individual, it depends among other factors on the atmosphere and climate in the party organization, which, in turn, hinges on the level of internal party democracy, an openminded and self-critical attitude, and the level of the development of collective discussion and decisionmaking on questions of the party's activity and the implementation of party policy. Secret ballots give an opportunity to voice one's opinion even if the needed atmosphere is not yet existent. There is nothing undemocratic about a secret ballot.

[Pergl] The manner of voting is to be decided by the annual members meeting, all-plenary meeting, or party conference on the basis of the proposal of the primary organization's committee or the respective party agency; this proposal is to be submitted through the presidium of the conference. Is this not too late? After all, the use of secret ballots requires certain administrative preparation.

[Klima] The manner of voting must be decided at the beginning of the annual members meeting, plenary meeting, or party conference together with the election of commissions. However, there is nothing that would prevent the primary organizations' committees from finding out in advance about the views of communists and party groups and from basing on these views the proposal that they submit to the members meeting on the manner of voting. As far as party conferences are concerned, the incumbent party agencies must prepare both alternatives of voting because the final decision can only be made by the conference itself. [passage omitted]

[Pergl] Who is selecting candidates for the new party agencies? Do party members have a chance to participate in the selection process?

[Klima] Responsibility for the cadre preparation cannot be borne by anyone other than the incumbent committees of primary organizations and incumbent party agencies. It is only up to them to prepare a broader selection of candidates, people who are capable of living up to the challenging tasks of the present period. In doing so they must respect the Resolution on Improving Cadre Policy adopted at the Seventh Session of the CPCZ Central

Committee, which has been published by RUDE PRAVO, PRAVDA, and UJ SZO. The aim is to deepen the involvement of Communists in primary organizations and lower-level agencies in the cadre preparation and to achieve an informal collective assessment of questions connected with the shaping of party agencies. [passage omitted]

In keeping with the principle of democratic centralism, with the cadre slates [kadrove poradky], and with the principles of cadre work, higher party agencies also participate in the selection of candidates. To sum it up, not only the election act itself but the entire cadre preparation of the new party agencies should take place with the participation of a broad range of Communists and the views of the public should also be considered.

[Pergl] What does a "broader selection of candidates" mean?

[Klima] The number of candidates selected for and submitted to annual meetings and conferences must exceed the number of members of the agencies that are to be elected. Before the start of the annual meeting, primary organizations can inform all members and candidate members on the names of those who have been proposed for the primary organization's committee. As for party conferences, the election commission may submit to all delegates a broader selection of candidates and then, on the basis of delegates' views and comments, draw up a slate of candidates where the number of nominations is equivalent to the set number of members of the agency that is to be elected. The election commission's course of action will be prepared by the incumbent party agency and included in its proposal for the session's agenda or election system.

The number of members of primary organizations' committees and the number of members and candidate members of plant, local, and city committees will be determined by district party committees and, in the case of enterprise party committees, by regional party committees. Decision on the specific number of members and candidate members of district committees, regional committees, and other committees of equivalent status will be made by party conferences within the scope set out in the Resolution of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium.

[Pergl] The Central Committee has made it possible to elect an increased number of members and candidate members of district and regional committees. What is the purpose of this?

[Klima] To deepen the collectiveness of management, to involve a broader circle of comrades in decisions on questions of party policy.

[Pergl] What is the role of election commissions?

[Klima] The election commissions will have the task to select from the broad range of candidates proposed by the incumbent party agencies the proposal for the composition of the new committees. Aside from meeting the exacting requirements on work under the current conditions, under the party statutes proposed candidates for membership in district committees must have been party members for at least 4 years and candidates for membership in regional committees for at least 5 years. The same requirements apply to membership in control and auditing commissions. Members and candidate members of party committees cannot simultaneously be members of control and auditing commissions at the same level of party structure. After hearing comments and obtaining the proposed candidates' consent, the election commissions submit the ultimate proposal of the agency's composition with the set number of members for approval.

[Pergl] How will the secret ballot operate?

[Klima] The election commission will distribute to all members or delegates voting slips with the names of the proposed members and candidate members of the new party agencies. Disagreement will be expressed by crossing out the first and family name of the proposed candidate as appropriate. Added names will not be considered, in view of the fact that party members or delegates have the opportunity to submit their proposals to the election commission. The voting slips will be deposited in the ballot box.

The election commission will then count the votes and inform the annual members meeting, all-plenary meeting, or party conference on the election result. If a candidate is not elected (that is, if he does not get more than 50 percent of the present voters' votes), the election commission submits another proposal. In such a case an open ballot can be chosen for technical reasons or to save time.

[Pergl] Why do the election commissions have to submit in their final proposal only the set number of candidates for the new party agency?

[Klima] This is made necessary by the need to comply with the set number of members of a party agency. Under the party statutes, he is elected who gets a simple majority of the votes of those present. Otherwise the number of those elected could thereby exceed the set number of members of a party agency.

[Pergl] The use of a secret ballot means that the deliberations of the annual meeting or party conference must be interrupted to allow the election commission to count the votes. Will this not disrupt the smooth course of the deliberations?

[Klima] If the election act is well organized, this does not have to be the case. There are usually intermissions during annual meetings, which can be used to count votes. Apart from that, the use of open ballots makes it necessary to put each candidate to vote separately, which takes some time.

[Pergl] How will the chairmen of party organizations, secretaries of party agencies, and their Presidia be elected?

[Klima] The election will be supervised, and nominations for chairmen or leading secretaries will be submitted, by representatives of the superior party agency, in harmony with the principle of democratic centralism and the established tradition. The newly elected agency will decide on the manner of voting. The further supervision of agencies and the submitting of proposals for the dividing of functions in committees of primary organizations will be undertaken by elected chairmen, and the proposals for the composition of Presidia and secretariats, and the election of secretaries of party agencies, will be submitted—accompanied by a substantiation—by elected leading secretaries.

One or more candidates can be nominated for the function of leading secretaries. At the same time it is necessary to avoid haphazardness and a subjective approach, and to ensure that the nominated candidates posses qualities necessary for the carrying out of the function and, in harmony with the cadre rules, the nominations must be discussed and approved by relevant party agencies. In case a candidate is not elected a new election will take place at the next meeting of the agency.

The Secretariat of the CPCZ Central Committee has approved the procedure on the elections of party agencies and their functionaries at the annual members' meetings, all-plenary meetings, conferences, and constituent meetings of the party agencies in 1988, and an excerpt from the procedure will be published in ZIVOT STRANY for the needs of primary organizations.

[Pergl] I thank you for the interview.

Government Session Views Economic Progress

LD052209 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1700 GMT 5 Jan 88

[Text] The Federal Government met in Prague today for its first meeting this year. It discussed the way to carry out the tasks proceeding from the working meeting betwen the Czechoslovak and Soviet prime ministers in Moscow in November last year. In connection with this, it set itself the task of working out a proposal for Czechoslovak participation in preparing the conception for cooperation between Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union for 15-20 years and the coordination of the national economic plans between the two countries for the period 1991-1995. Other conclusions concern the development of mutual trade and economic relations at the end of this 5-year plan, new forms of cooperation, the restructuring of the integration's new economic mechanism, opportunities for widening cooperation in transport including transit transportation of goods across the Soviet Union's territory, the use of the capacity of the Czechoslovak chemical industry, and the development of tourism, first and foremost Czechoslovak citizens' trips to the Soviet Union.

The government also discussed and approved its work schedule for this year and selected tasks for the period 1989-1990 that proceed from the conclusions of the 17th CPCZ Congress. It expressed its approval for the plan of the activity of the Czechoslovak People's Control Committee in the first 6 months of this year. It will focus on the spheres where we are not suceeding in ensuring the necessary pace of intensification of the national economy. The Czechoslovak People's Control Committee will, for example, deal with the causes of disruptions in consumer-supplier relations, the efficiency and the results of the work of selected research institutes, the economical running of vehicle operations, increased consumer protection, and the efficiency of business trips abroad, and on a permanent basis it will deal with the findings of processed complaints, notifications, and suggestions put forward by the citizens.

When discussing directions for the further development of the national committees after the 17th party congress, the government stressed the need for a fundamental turn in providing for the comprehensive economic and social development of villages, towns, districts, and regions in a way dictated by the needs of the citizens. The prerequisite is the provision of the national committees with the appropriate rights and material resources. In connection with this, legal regulations are being prepared to place in the national committees' purview the comprehensive restructuring of the economic mechanism and contribute to the strengthening of their authority and responsibility. The line outlined by the 6th session of the Party Central Committee in 1982 will be further continued in the sphere of services.

The audit report also acquainted the government with the implementation of the conception of the state housing policy for this 5-year plan and the period after 1990. It noted an unsatisfactory state in the fulfillment of the plan of the comprehensive housing construction and pointed at the repeated shortcomings in the territorial planning and design preparations, in construction management, and also in the inconsistent implementation of the approved measures and in their entirely insufficient inspection. The government has therefore outlined a task to inspect the causes of the backlog in the preparation and implementation of comprehensive housing construction in all regions and to create conditions for the fulfillment of the plan of the comprehensive housing construction in the Eighth 5-Year Plan.

The government has commissioned the federal minister of finance and the chairman of the Czechoslovak State Bank to negotiate with the relevant partners in Hungary, the GDR and Poland the foreign exchange limits that are intended for the citizens in the reciprocal tourism this year. With regard to the great interest of our citizens in individual tourist trips to Hungary, the government once again recalled last year's decision Number 285 that made it encumbent upon the chairman of the State Planning Commission and the minister of the foreign trade in cooperation with production ministries to provide sufficient export funds for Hungary, in order to be able to meet the demands of tourism in an improved way.

At the proposal of the Slovak Government, the Federal Government discussed and approved the implementation of the comprehensive experiment on raising the independence and the responsibility for the effective development in the organizations belonging to the sphere of the Slovak Ministry of Construction: Doprastav Bratislava, Priemstav Bratislava, Keramicke Zavody Kosice, and Strojstav Bratislava; and those belonging to the Slovak Ministry of Agriculture and Food: Vinarske Zavody Bratislava and Ceskoslovensky Tabakovy Priemysl Bratislava. The Federal Government also discussed and approved some other proposals, reports, and information. Among them was a proposal for approving an agreement on the assistance in the event of a nuclear or radiation accident and the report on the results of the third session of the Czechoslovak-PRC Commission for Economic, Trade, and Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

Fuel, Power Minister Ehrenberger Notes Tasks

LD310958 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1830 GMT 30 Dec 87

[Studio address by Fuel and Power Minister Vlastimil Ehrenberger—live or recorded]

[Text] A feature of the year just ending was, above all, higher demand by all consumers for solid fuel, heating oil, electricity, and heat. The higher than planned consumption was influenced, of course, by the bad weather, but an additional significant fact is that we are not managing to attain the necessary level of rationalizing fuel and energy consumption, and thus reduce the national economy's energy-intensiveness at the planned rate.

In order to meet the increased consumption, all branches of the fuel and power sector had to exceed their tasks since the beginning of this year. We expect to have supplied more than 3 million tonnes of coal, 350-450 million cubic meters of heating oil, and about 250 million kwh of electricity above the plan. Supplies of graded coal, meant primarily for domestic consumers, supplies which are closely scrutinized and often ciriticized, will have exceeded 21 million tonnes, which means overfulfilling the plan by about 1 million tonnes. In this respect demand exceeds supply, but it is beyond the ability of miners to exceed the plan even more substantially than this because we do not have adequate stocks of coal suitable for grading, and such coal has to be extracted in very difficult conditions. The supply situation could be better if, for example, other branches of the economy had reacted many years ago, and had implemented the tasks assigned to them in converting their power plans to operate on lower-grade fuels. This would have made more graded coal, currently being burned in industry, available for domestic consumers.

Before the cold period we also paid maximum attention to another sensitive area, the supply of heat. During this year a number of technical measure were implemented particularly in those areas where there were problems last winter, in order to improve the supply of heat. If there are persistent hard frosts we have consumption regulation plans drawn up in areas where supplies are at risk. These give priority to meeting the needs of domestic consumers, hospitals, schools and social facilities.

This year the fuel and power sector is also fully meeting its planned export tasks and decisive financial and economic indicators, such as labor productivity in adjusted net output and profits and costs. However, currently in jeopardy is fulfillment of the stipulated levels of stocks.

As I have said, the energy-intensiveness of the national economy is being reduced at a lower rate than planned, in fact, at about half that rate. This is something we are also taking into account in providing for next year's plan fulfillment, when we will have to extract more than 1 million tonnes of coal over and above the amount set for that year in the 5-year plan. We have increased the graded coal and briquette production plan by 500,000 tonnes. Electricity generation will be about 500 million kwh higher, which is made possible mainly thanks to the reliable operation of our nuclear power stations, which this year are already accounting for 1/4 of our total electricity generation.

In capital construction we are facing a very complex situation, because cutbacks in this sphere fully affect the fuel and power sector. We will give priority in using the funds earmarked for our sector—which are almost Kcs750 million less than in 1987—to developing nuclear power generation, which is the main vector of the changes in the structure of fuel and power production, and also has a favorable impact on the ecology of the whole state. We will also give priority to making progress on the "Progress" gas line in the Soviet Union, where we must complete the first part of the line's route by 30 June for trial operations to begin.

We are also paying maximum attention to the economic efficiency of our work, particularly in connection with the restructuring of the economic mechanism. We cannot influence the quality of coal extracted, nor can we update our products, which are various kinds of fuel and energy, so the crucial area for further intensification as

far as we are concerned is costs. Here the tasks will be all the more challenging because we will be carrying them out in objectively deteriorating geological mining conditions using deep extraction techniques, and in the face of increasing overburden in surface mining, which naturally has a negative impact on costs.

We have discussed all the specific features of our sector with the relevant bodies in elaborating and specifying the principles for restructuring the economic mechanism in our sector. We deem it necessary to tackle further the issue of rational economic behavior by our enterprises in the conditions described in the comprehensive restructuring document. Let us take one specific example to illustrate the complexity of the situation: The fuel and power policy formulated by the 17th party congress sets out the requirement for energy-intensiveness in the creation of national income to be constantly reduced—that means rationalizing consumption, reducing additional fuel and energy requirements to the necessary level, or even reducing basic requirements, as in the case of coal consumption. It is therefore clear that if, for example, our mines tried to maximize their production and profits, these justified interests would run counter to the interests which benefit society as a whole.

The effectiveness of certain elements of restructuring in the conditions in the fuel and power sector will be tried out from the beginning of 1988 by two of its organizations, namely the Power Research Institute and the Naftove a Plynarenske Podniky [oil and gas] concern, which will apply the comprehensive experiment for enhancing autonomy and efficiency. Other organizations in our sector have put forward proposals for the functioning of future economic concerns, together with proposals for internal organizational arrangements and for elaborating borating internal enterprise cost accounting. The findings thus obtained are processed, and it can be said that the vital basic conditions for applying the restructuring document in our sector have been created.

Italian Paper Comments on Jakes' Appointment

PM221606 Milan L'UNITA in Italian 18 Dec 87 p 1

[Giulietto Chiesa commentary: "Pending Further Word From the East"]

[Text] Milos Jakes' appointment as leader of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] is not entirely a surprise. His candidacy as Gustav Husak's successor had emerged in recent months as a solution capable, his promoters hope, of surmounting the contraposition between conservatives and moderate progressives of all hues. The surprise, if any, is in the timing, the rapidity (or the earliness) with which the operation was carried out. There is reason to believe that Gustav Husak's state of health played a part in this, though the official communique announced by the CPCZ Central Committee makes no reference to this aspect, which enhances the political significance of the succession. So despite all the unanswered questions, the event appears to be of considerable importance. Perhaps the urgent nature of the decision made it impossible to carry out the transfer of responsibilities that would have conferred on the successor sufficient authority to administer the new phase under the pressure of the new political guidelines defined by the Soviet new course, which would explain why Husak retains the post of president of the republic.

However, the decision nevertheless constitutes a change capable of setting the situation in motion, in contrast with the paralysis and uncertainties that have characterized the Czechoslovak leadership group, unlike other East European leaderships.

Perhaps a change was essential to circumvent both the embarrassing candidacy of Bilak and also that of Strougal, which has recently acquired a moderately reformist image. It is indeed true that the compromise appears to lean more toward conservative stances (and Jakes himself was keen to dispel any uncertainties immediately by issuing a warning to anyone imagining that his appointment heralds a change of course). Nevertheless his investiture speech did contain an explicit mention of the human rights observance issue, which constitutes an embryonic acknowledgment of the existence of by no means resolved tensions and problems.

The method chosen—the Central Committee's unanimous approval—shows, despite the fact that it proceeds from a familiar ritual, the desire to ensure a painless transition, with a solution that should make it possible to face the test of the 20th anniversary of the intervention in Czechoslovakia with a change of image.

It is impossible to say now whether or not—and if so, what—political substance is concealed beneath this change, which nevertheless appears to fall short of the expectations and hopes made evident by the triumphal welcome granted to Mikhail Gorbachev on his recent visit to Prague. The Soviet leader's greetings message—again ritualistic, but by no means neutral in its points of emphasis—expresses, together with good wishes of success, the "certainty" that the new leader will succeed in renewing socialism in Czechoslovakia, restructuring the economy, and ensuring the country's political democratization. The Kremlin's deliberations on the enduring and still recent Prague tragedy are by no means over. Signs of a revision of the assessments made at that time have been accompanied by clear-cut reaffirmations that indicate the difficulty, even in Moscow, of resolving the problems that beleaguer the Czechoslovak leadership. Now it remains to be seen whether the step taken toward an ineluctable change will be sufficient to ensure the transition to real change without upheavals that could have repercussions on the delicate processes under way in the USSR and other East European countries.

Israel's 'Illegal Actions' Prompt Protest

LD071154 Prague CTK in English
1055 GMT 7 Jan 88

[Text] Prague Jan 7 (CTK)—Czechoslovakia resolutely protests against the illegal actions of Israel, Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry Spokesman Dusan Rovensky stated today in connection with the planned deportations of Palestinians from the occupied Arab territories.

Czechoslovakia calls on the Israeli Government to fulfill its obligations following from the Geneva Accord on the protection of civilians at the time of war and to immediately agree to a just settlement of the Palestinian issue by way of an international conference which is the only real way out of the critical situation on the occupied territories and the whole of the Middle East.

This is not only required by the extremely urgent need for a just solution of the Palestinian issue but it also corresponds to the real interests of the Israeli people, the interests of peace and security in the world, Dusan Rovensky stated.

Ministry Spokesman on 1987 Foreign Policy

AU031715 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
29 Dec 87 p 6

[Article by Dusan Rovensky, CSSR Foreign Ministry Spokesman: "Czechoslovakia and the World; Reflections on our Foreign Policy in the Year 1987"—passages in bold as published]

[Text]**In writing the history of our times, historians will undoubtedly characterize the year 1987 as a striking turning point in the world situation. The escalation of international tension was successfully halted and solid foundations were laid for consolidating international security and developing peace relations between states with different social systems. In 1987 the culminating events in international relations were undoubtedly the Soviet-American summit meeting and the treaty on eliminating the dangerous part of nuclear arsenals, namely two classes of nuclear missiles—intermediate- and shorter-range missiles.**

Socialist Czechoslovakia is situated in the most exposed part of the European Continent, which was the stage of two destructive wars in this century alone. They cost tens of millions of human lives and caused immense material losses and destruction. But compared with the terrors of a nuclear conflict, with a war conducted by modern, contemporary means of combat, the apocalypse of two world wars would seem negligible. That is why the main strategic task of Czechoslovak foreign policy is to strive for a world which is not constantly threatened by an increasing and more and more rapid accumulation of weapons, in which extinction does not threaten the human race, and in which mankind can devote all its creative forces to achieving prosperity, eliminating the hunger that plagues whole continents, liquidating dangerous diseases, and protecting the constantly deteriorating living environments.

Coordinated Policy—a Common Goal [subhead]

This strategic line was formulated in the resolution of the 17th CPCZ Congress, which identified itself with the foreign-political program of the 27th CPSU Congress. **We are developing our foreign-political efforts within the framework of the coordinated policy of the countries of the socialist community.** Cooperation with the fraternal countries in the foreign-political field is multiplying our potentials and simultaneously helping us reach our common goals (which also fully express the interests of all peace-loving mankind).

Last year Czechoslovakia's foreign policy consistently proceeded from a deep Marxist-Leninist analysis of the present world, from its development trends. The present world and its international relations undoubtedly have many novel features. Today's world differs from the world of the past and confronts us with a new situation, and it is in this situation that we must pursue our foreign policy. The development of the weapons of mass destruction has most emphatically raised the issue of mankind's survival. If the very existence of the human race is under threat, then no other task is as urgent as that of removing this threat, or at least diminishing it. That is why last year our Czechoslovak foreign policy was oriented toward this. The action program of this effort is **to set up a comprehensive system of international peace and security**—a system which would reliably protect peace and count on everybody's being safe, at the same time ensuring this safety.

At the end of October, Prague was the venue of a significant **session of the Committee of Warsaw Pact's Ministers of Foreign Affairs.** This session (already the 15th in succession) focused its attention on ways to diminish international tension and promote the process of further detente and cooperation in Europe. The session was held on the eve of an extremely significant event—the final talks of U.S. and USSR foreign ministers in Washington, which opened the doors for a Soviet-American summit meeting in December 1987. In the documents adopted by the committee, the ministers stated that they see realistic prerequisites for deepening the policy of detente in the military sphere. At our, Czechoslovak, proposal, the committee adopted **an appeal to enhance the efficiency of the Geneva Disarmament Conference.**

Activity in International Forums [subhead]

The **United Nations** is an important place where we are striving to establish a comprehensive system of international peace and security. At the 42d UN General Assembly Session we supported considerable activity aimed at enabling this significant international forum to

contribute more effectively toward establishing peace relations in the world and developing cooperation among the states regardless of their social systems. We proceeded there from the premise that this organization is irreplaceable and that it bears primary responsibility for the solution of global problems, and also for the consolidation of international security. Our voice at the UN General Assembly session was received with great respect. This proves yet again Czechoslovakia's constructive role in the United Nations and its growing international prestige. In New York the CSSR submitted (together with the fraternal socialist countries) a number of initiative proposals, which have evoked a strong international echo. **Our initiatives on the comprehensive system of international peace and security, on international cooperation aimed at reaching disarmament goals, on verification [kontrola], on adherence to disarmament agreements, and so forth,** are of extreme significance.

Our voice was also heard on other significant issues, above all on the normalization of international economic relations and the creation of a new economic system which would ensure the economic safety of all countries within the comprehensive system of international peace and security.

The UN conference on relationship between disarmament and development was also held in 1987. At this conference we acted as co-authors of a most significant proposal, namely to set up an international fund which would enable the use of means released by armament reduction for development purposes, and the use of means and facilities that are now bound by the armament industry for peaceful purposes.

At the United Nations and other international forums, and also in bilateral negotiations, we carried out considerable activity in the ecological sphere, too. We regard it as a significant field of international cooperation and one of the global problems concerning all states regardless of their social system—we regard it as one of the points of contact in the international community. **At the 42d UN General Assembly Session we proposed a number of significant initiatives, oriented toward creating a worldwide concept of environment protection.** We also proceeded from the thought that the creation of a comprehensive system of international peace and security includes its own ecological sphere, one which is no less significant or important than the political, military, economic, and humanitarian spheres.

We also strove to foster the successful continuation of the process of international detente in Europe **in the Vienna negotiations on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe;** at the Geneva Disarmament Conference; and in other forums. The CSSR's contributions on those occasions were energetic, businesslike, and specific.

Intensive Dialogue [subhead]

Last year has also shown us that the core of our foreign-political efforts and the pivotal task of our foreign policy and diplomacy **is to develop relations with the socialist states and to strengthen the unity and cohesion of the fraternal socialist countries.** This is in keeping with the line adopted by the 17th CPCZ Congress, which set the deepening of cooperation with the countries of the socialist community above everything else. The decisive incentives for these activities came from the deliberations of top party representatives and from the contacts and collaboration of the central committees of fraternal parties. During the last few months, too, Czechoslovakia energetically strove to develop all-round cooperation among the fraternal countries both on the territory of the Warsaw Pact and within CEMA.

Our foreign-political orientation is based on our **fraternal cooperation with the Soviet Union.** Here the new foreign-political thinking and the USSR's dynamic and flexible foreign policy are the source of our inspiration. We are jointly striving to make the present world—a world full of dangers and risks, a world threatened by immense arsenals of nuclear and conventional weapons—become a world of peace. **The Prague visit of Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary,** and his talks with Comrade Gustav Husak and other leading representatives of our party, represented further significant incentives in this respect.

Last year our relations with the other fraternal socialist countries—**the Polish People's Republic, the GDR, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Mongolia, Cuba, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, the DPRK, Yugoslavia, and China**—developed further.

We can also make a positive assessment of the **development of our contacts with the developing countries;** their involvement, but also their specific weight, in global problems continues to grow. Our main attention was understandably focused on consolidating our relations with those developing countries which are taking the path of progressive, socialist development. But our relations with other countries with an anti-imperialist orientation have also intensified.

Our **dialogue with the developed capitalist states** has deepened and here, too, we have been able to achieve certain significant results. Our relations with the FRG and Austria, our neighboring states which have a different social system, have also improved.

Thus, in taking stock of the year 1987, we find that we have achieved a number of indubitable and striking, positive results in the foreign-political field. It was also thanks to us that the escalation of international tension could be halted, and many an obstacle preventing the development of peaceful cooperation between countries with different social systems removed. This is due to everybody contributing to the achievement of the foreign-political goals set by the 17th CPCZ Congress—to party and state agencies and social organizations.

Comparison of Gorbachev Message to Jakes

AU051358 [Editorial Report] Prague TRIBUNA in Czech No. 51 on 23 December 1987 devotes its entire page 1 to the seventh session of the CPCZ Central Committee in Prague on 17-18 December and the election of Milos Jakes as general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee. The TRIBUNA material includes the 150-word "M. Gorbachev's Congratulatory Telegram" on Jakes' election.

Comparison of the TRIBUNA version of the telegram with the RUDE PRAVO version published in the 22 December East Europe DAILY REPORT, page 15 shows the two to be identical, except for the following variation:

Paragraph three, first sentence reads in TRIBUNA: further development and renewal [obnova] of socialism in Czechoslovakia (changing "consolidation" to "renewal".)

The TRIBUNA version thus conforms with the Moscow PRAVDA version published in the 21 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on page 30, which speaks of "further developing and renewing socialism on Czechoslovak soil."

Jakes Receives USSR Envoy Lomakin

LD041513 Prague CTK in English
1446 GMT 4 Jan 88

[Text] Prague Jan 4 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes received here today Soviet Ambassador to Czechoslovakia Viktor Lomakin.

They discussed some topical questions of political and economic cooperation between the two countries, as well as of relations between the Czechoslovak and Soviet Communist Parties.

Paper on Difficulties With USSR Joint Venture

AU041457 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Slovak
30 Dec 87 p 4

[Article by Eduard Drabik of RUDE PRAVO and Stanislav Vtorusin of Bratislava PRAVDA: "Review of ROBOT's Activity; RUDE PRAVO and PRAVDA Correspondents Pay a Visit to a Czechoslovak-Soviet Joint Venture"]

[Text] Vladimir Cop, general director of the ROBOT joint venture, invited us to a hall located near his office. A handful of people there were pondering large sheets of paper spread on long desks. "This is the first concrete thing, and we think it is a thing of magnitude, on which our venture works," V. Cop said. "Here we have simultaneously three alternatives that have been worked out for the modernization of the Moscow Krasnyy Proletariy plant. All design work must be completed next year, and the modernization then within 2 years."

The Czechoslovak-Soviet ROBOT venture was founded in March 1985. In the beginning it was called a scientific-technical venture. Its task was to develop automated [robotizovane] complexes and flexible production systems, and to manufacture prototypes. But already the first months showed that the international venture did not have much of a future in that respect. It was difficult to compete with Czechoslovak and Soviet ministries, which were devoting themselves to the production of robots. The ministries were stronger and had more resources. Even the venture's excellent projects did not have it easy to get into production halls. The organizational preparation was an insurmountable obstacle for them. The venture lost Kcs6.8 million in 1985, and Kcs4.1 million last year. It was obvious that the original assumption was not upheld.

Changes have occurred only this year when the venture was transformed from a scientific-technical to a scientific-production venture and new people assumed its management. V. Cop, the head of VUKOV, the scientific-production concern for the comprehensive automation of production, and corresponding member of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, became ROBOT's general director, and V. Voyevodin, former USSR deputy minister of machine tool and tool building industry, became his first deputy.

"We began looking for a way out of the existing situation," V. Cop said, "and we came to the conclusion that engineering would be the most promising direction of our collective's work. The essence of engineering is oriented toward the comprehensive automation and mechanization of enterprises on the basis of the existing technology manufactured in series in Czechoslovakia as well as in the Soviet Union. The venture will be manufacturing peripheral [periferni] equipment for it, with the help of which it will be possible to automate technological processes. This can be seen best in the example of the Krasnyy Proletariy plant. The modernization of the well-known Soviet enterprise as it is being planned today differs considerably from the modernizations formerly carried out. What is involved is not only the replacement of individual machines or the change in sectors' equipment, but also the introduction of modern automated production in the old facilities. At the same time one envisages a pace, which even today seems to be impossible to many people. How will it be done?

ROBOT's experts will work out a plan for the plant's technical modernization, on the basis of which, after an agreement with the management of the Krasnyy Proletariy plant, the venture will purchase machine tools. The venture itself will manufacture all nonstandard equipment for them, including robots, automated technological transportation, modernized storage facilities for semifinished and finished products, and automated systems for controlling technological processes. Deliveries will be carried out exactly according to a work schedule, it will be a "turnkey" modernization.

We met with N. Kozhemyakin, head of the Krasnyy Proletariy department of future-oriented technological planning, who has arrived in Presov, the seat of the venture, on official business. He said: "Modernization will permit us to create a flexible, automated production, it makes it possible to radically shorten the time needed to assimilate new technology, enhance the quality of production, and increase labor productivity. I will leave here with three alternatives pertaining to the modernization of departments. We will choose the alternative which corresponds best to our conditions."

In addition to the Krasnyy Proletariy, the ROBOT venture will equip two more Soviet and three Czechoslovak enterprises by the end of the current 5-year plan. This year, for the first time, the venture will make about Kcs1 million profit.

The services, which ROBOT has begun providing, attracts many enterprises. Already now almost 30 Czechoslovak and Soviet enterprises would like to conclude contracts with it. After all, modernization on the basis of the latest results of science and technology constitutes for them the embarkation upon a qualitatively different level of technological progress. But in order to be able to take this vigorous step, ROBOT itself must be quicker to stand on its own feet. In the first place, it must establish its own production base.

The USSR Ministry of Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry has decided to incorporate the S. M. Kirov Machine Tool Plant of Mukachevo into the ROBOT venture. A new assembly department is being built there, and the construction of yet another, similar, project is envisaged. The Czechoslovak side is in charge of the production base of the VUKOV concern and, in addition, ROBOT has the production base of the ZTS plant in Sabinov at its disposal. When speaking about the contribution of the Czechoslovak side, it is necessary to note that, in addition to the production base, it has given an administrative building and apartments for Soviet experts who come to work in Presov at the venture's disposal.

A decision has been adopted that the Mukachevo plant will manufacture equipment for hoisting loads up to 40 kg, and VUKOV will produce equipment for hoisting loads up to 80 and more kg. Production in volume of this equipment will begin next year. The first samples of the new products are already in production.

The existing production base suits the management of the venture at present. The venture plans to manufacture 26 automated complexes in the 1987-88 period. Their production must increase at least ten-fold by 1995. Here crops up a number of questions. In addition to ROBOT's tasks, the Mukachevo plant has its own production program, which is most important for it. Should the danger arise that this program might not be fulfilled, the plant's management can concentrate all its efforts on fulfilling it. Also the ministry has this possibility. All this fully applies to the Czechoslovak enterprises which cooperate with ROBOT. The management of the venture sees the way out of this situation in incorporating these enterprises into the ROBOT's system for a certain time. And, all of a sudden, a new problem crops up: Each one of the enterprises is located in a different country. What that means is illustrated by the following example.

The Mukachevo plant receives products from Presov. That means that it can acquire them only for transferable rubles. These are still being allocated from the center. But already today it is clear that this practice retards progress. The catch is that since ROBOT will pay for the machinery from serial production which it will be purchasing in the USSR in transferable rubles, it must also sell them for transferable rubles. But not by a long shot do all Soviet plants that lack modern technology have transferable rubles at their disposal. At the same time, they might have enough Soviet rubles. Even for those they would be able to modernize production. Budgets in transferable rubles do not make this possible. This applies to Czechoslovak enterprises, too.

An international venture must not have foreign currency barriers. It can operate effectively only when it has the opportunity to choose the suppliers of the most essential technology in both countries. There must be only one criterion: technical standard, quality, and the price of a product. Therefore, the venture must have its account in a Czechoslovak as well as in a Soviet bank. This will also automatically resolve the issue of payments for ROBOT's services. ROBOT will receive rubles for work done on the USSR territory, and korunas for work done on the CSSR territory.

The issue of convertible currency is not an easy one. This issue is on the agenda. The first international venture gets unique opportunity to verify this issue in practice. It would be quite logical if the appropriate Soviet and Czechoslovak agencies discussed this issue and gave ROBOT the powers to use convertible currency. That experience might come in handy in the future.

No less serious is the second problem. In order to equip enterprises, ROBOT must purchase technological equipment both in Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union; not only certain components, but most modern machinery. After all, the objective is the broadest possible utilization of the scientific and design potential of the two countries. This equipment is allocated many years in advance, of course. Where and how will ROBOT acquire this equipment? An accurate answer to this question does not exist so far. But without a speedy resolution of the given problem, the effectiveness of the venture's work is steeply reduced and its development retarded.

Already now the question emerges how will ROBOT be purchasing equipment not only in Czechoslovakia and the USSR, but also in other countries. Some of them have already displayed an interest in this. But the venture has no powers to trade with partners abroad. It

is not permitted to have commercial dealings with third countries without special permission. To put it generally, ROBOT must choose suppliers not according to nationality, but according to the technological standard and the price of products. Also companies from the capitalist countries can be among them; presuming that we can provide our services to them.

The problems ROBOT faces today are not only of practical, but also theoretical importance: Socialism lacks practical experience regarding the setting up and operating of joint ventures. And this is why until now there has not existed a mechanism for managing them efficiently. We are beginning to acquire this experience only now. Therefore, it is necessary that both manufacturers and scientists take part in working out a mechanism for the management of joint ventures.

Already ROBOT's first steps have shown the good prospects of the chosen path, and we must do everything to get the first international scientific-production venture firmly on its feet, as fast as possible.

U.S. Navy Wants To 'Settle Down' in Gulf

AU291312 Bratislava ROLNICKE NOVINY in Slovak 28 Dec 87 p 6

[Juraj Bydzovsky article: "Aggravation of the Persian Gulf Conflict; Not Only Tankers Are Burning"]

[Excerpts] Practically not a single day has passed recently without reports on tankers being attacked in the Persian Gulf by Iranian or "unidentified" speedboats. Iranian quarters continue their tactics, on the one hand, of praising the effectiveness of Iranian combat actions and, on the other hand, assidiously striving to give the impression that the attacking boats fell from the skies and then returned there after an attack. [passage omitted]

There can hardly be any doubt that it is precisely the United States that is exploiting the conflict as a welcome opportunity to maintain strong military forces in this part of the world, and that with pleasure follows how Iran—by its attacks on the tankers—increases the number of those taking up a negative attitude toward it.

U.S. Secretary Frank Carlucci is to visit the Persian Gulf region soon to inspect the U.S. Navy units there. He will also conduct talks with leading representatives of some states in that region. But there is more to it: In an interview with the CBS television company, Carlucci declared that he wants to study the possibility of creating an American military structure for this part of the world. This means that the American Armed Forces want to exploit this opportunity, and firmly and permanently settle down there. Washington essentially perceives the Iranian attacks as a helping hand in the realization of these intentions. [passage omitted]

FRG's Kohl To Visit 26-27 January

AU051015 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 31 Dec 87 p 5

["ZR"-signed report: "Helmut Kohl Will Pay Visit to the CSSR"]

[Text] Bonn (ZR)—According to the Federal Chancellor's Office, FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl will pay an official visit to the CSSR on 26-27 January 1988. In addition to talks with CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal, a meeting with President of the Republic Gustav Husak is planned.

Mandlikova Breaks Promise To Play for CSSR

AU051923 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 3 Jan 88 p 8

["ZR"-signed report: "Mandlikova An Australian Citizen"]

[Text] According to a report of the British REUTER agency, the tennis player Hana Mandlikova received Australian citizenship in Sidney on 1 January. As is known, Mandlikova married an Australian national, Jan Sedlak, a Sidney businessman of Czech origin, in Prague 2 years ago. Contrary to what she said in a recent interview for RUDE PRAVO, Mandlikova has now declared that she intends to play for Australia in the Olympic Games. However, the fact is that she may compete in the Olympic Games only for one country, and she has already played in an official team competition for one country, that is, in the Federation Cup. As REUTER goes on to say, the Federation Cup rules stipulate a 3-year hiatus between representating two different countries. If the International Tennis Federation permits Mandlikova to play in the Federation Cup at Australia's request, she could also qualify for the Olympic Games.

Romanians Congratulated on Anniversary

AU021512 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 30 Dec 87 p 1

[CTK report: "Czechoslovak Representatives' Telegrams to Romania; Comradely Greetings, Cordial Congratulations"

[Text] Prague (CTK)—CPCZ Central Committee General Secretary Milos Jakes, CSSR President Gustav Husak, and CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal have sent Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of the SR of Romania, and Constantin Dascalescu, prime minister of the Government of the SR of Romania, the following congratulatory telegram on the 40th anniversary of the proclamation of the SR of Romania:

Esteemed comrades: On behalf of the CPCZ Central Committee, the Government and the people of the CSSR, and on our behalf, we are sending you, the RCP Central Committee, the Government and the fraternal

people of the SR of Romania, comradely greetings and cordial congratulations on the 40th anniversary of the proclamation of the SR of Romania.

This important event in your country's modern history established the prerequisites for the realization of fundamental political and socioeconomic changes. We value the achievement of the Romanian people under the RCP's leadership and in cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community. We follow with sympathy the creative efforts of the working people of your fatherland to implement the resolutions of the 13th Congress and the National Conference of the RCP.

We are deeply convinced that the friendship and cooperation between our parties, states, and peoples will continue to successfully expand in the interest of the common struggle for peace, disarmament, and social progress in the world.

Esteemed comrades: We wish you, all Romanian Communists and working people further success in the construction of socialist society, in the work for an all-round prosperity of the SR of Romania.

Husak Greets Zimbabwe's Mugabe On Election

AU041556 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 31 Dec 87 p 1

[Text] Prague (CTK)—CSSR President Gustav Husak has sent a congratulatory telegram to Robert Mugabe on his election as the president of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

Honecker, Delegation Depart for France

LD071308 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1214 GMT7 Jan 88

[Text] Berlin, 7 Jan (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council left at noon today for a state visit to France. He was invited by French President Francois Mitterrand.

Members of Erich Honecker's official entourage are State Council Deputy Chairman Guenter Mittag, Politburo member and SED Central Committee secretary; Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer; Foreign Trade Minister Gerhard Beil; Guenter Seiber, head of the international relations department of the SED Central Committee; Frank-Joachim Herrmann, state secretary and head of the secretariat of the State Council Chairman; and Alfred Marter, GDR Ambassador to France.

Erich Honecker was seen off at Berlin-Schoenefeld Airport by the members and candidate members of the SED Central Committee Politburo: Willi Stoph, chairman of the Council of Ministers, Horst Dohlus, Kurt Hager, Joachim Herrmann, Werner Jarowinsky, General Heinz Kessler, Guenther Kleiber, Egon Krenz, Werner Krolikowski, General Erich Mielke, Erich Mueckenberger, Alfred Neumann, Guenter Schabowski, Harry Tisch, Inge Lange, and Gerhard Schuerer; by the deputy chairmen of the State Council, Prof. Heinrich Homann and Dr. Guenther Maleuda; by the deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers, Rudolph Schulze and Dr. Herbet Weiz. Also present was Philippe Bossiere, French charge d'affaires in the GDR.

Mitterrand Welcomes Visit

LD062021 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1830 GMT 6 Jan 88

[Text] Paris 6 Jan (ADN)—In an interview for GDR television French President Francois Mitterrand today expressed the conviction that his meeting with Erich Honecker can only be of the greatest benefit for both countries. Moreover, for him personally it is interesting to meet this great German statesman. It will be an excellent thing to improve relations between the two countries, although there has already been progress in recent years.

In the interview on the eve of the state visit by the general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, Francois Mitterrand added: "We await Herr Honecker with great pleasure and great interest." After the visit to the GDR by former prime minister Laurent Fabius, this is now the first official meeting at head of state level. "We appreciate the fact that Herr Honecker is coming to Paris, where we shall receive him in a manner appropriate to such an important state visit."

The president said that he is expecting a deepening and an improvement of relations between the two states. There are, of course, quite intensive trade relations, but they can be expanded further. Political relations take place within the framework of a still divided world, with regard to both the alliance and economic and social matters. "But there are also values that we have in common and which I absolutely want to preserve. This is why I am expecting a lot from this visit."

Mitterrand welcomed the treaty between the USSR and the United States signed in Washington. The start to disarmament with the medium-range missiles is a success. It is an excellent thing to have taken the difficult step of verification. "But we must carry on. I believe that both countries intend to start serious discussions on strategic weapons, and this is necessary."

Then there are still the conventional and chemical weapons. All these topics should be touched upon. One must advance step by step to make progress. "General disarmament is an ancient dream of mankind, whose realization will mean considerable progress for civilization."

The president spoke emphatically in favor of an improvement in West-East relations. "We must form close ties between the so-called East Bloc countries and the Western countries, irrespective of how our economic and social systems look. We should not isolate ourselves in categories which make dialogue, exchange and, at the end of the day, common political perspectives impossible. I will never endorse a policy that closes the door on this hope, the hope which I am working for." France has its friends and allies, especially the Federal Republic of Germany, but he wants doors to be opened, not closed.

During the interview, Francois Mitterrand spoke on a number of other global and regional questions, including the economic situation in Western Europe, the Middle East situation, the Iraq-Iran conflict and the problems of the developing countries.

Soviet Soldiers Reportedly Tried, Executed

AU071010 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 7 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] In the GDR two Soviet soldiers were allegedly sentenced to death by a military court and executed because they had caused a traffic accident while being drunk. Four people were allegedly killed. This has now been reported unofficially in East Berlin.

Former USSR Spy's Daughter Leaves for FRG

LD052230 Hamburg DPA in German 1848 GMT 5 Jan 88

[Text] Hamburg (DPA)—After numerous applications for an exit visa the 39-year-old daughter of the former diplomat and Soviet spy during the Nazi era, Gerhard Kegel (80), has been allowed by the GDR leaders to leave for the Federal Republic, tomorrow's BILD newspaper

reports. According to BILD, she did not allow herself to be intimidated by reprisals in the GDR. For several days she has been at an undisclosed place in the West.

Kegel joined the KPD in 1931, and as a cover he also joined the NSDAP on may 1st 1934. He worked first as a scientific assistant at the German Embassy in Warsaw and later became deputy head of the trade policy department at the embassy in Moscow. After the outbreak of war he returned to the Foreign Ministry in Berlin, was later called up and in January 1945 deserted to the Red Army. Until then he had been a member of the Soviet espionage service GRU. After the war his career proceeded rapidly. In July 1973 he became the GDR's permanent representative at the United Nations in Geneva with the rank of ambassador. Kegel often commented on the Germany question. Shortly before the meeting between the then Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt and GDR Prime Minister Willi Stoph in Kassel in 1970, he said that reunification was "neither possible nor conceivable."

Leaders Exchange New Year Greetings

AU041242 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2-3 Jan 88 p 1

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—On the occasion of the turn of the year Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, exchanged cordial greetings and best wishes for a successful year 1988 with Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Erich Honecker also exchanged New Year greetings with the leading representatives of the other socialist states, with the heads of state of numerous other states, as well as with leading representatives of international organizations. The general secretary of the SED Central Committee also exchanged congratulations with leaders of communist and workers parties, other friendly parties, as well as leading representatives of national liberation movements.

Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, and Nikolay Ryzkhov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, conveyed best wishes and congratulations to each other on the same occasion. Willi Stoph also exchanged New Year greetings with the prime ministers of other socialist states and counterparts from other countries.

Horst Sindermann, president of the GDR People's Chamber, and the parliamentary presidents of numerous states also exchanged New Year congratulations.

Honecker Cables Greetings To PLO's 'Arafat

AU041148 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 31 Dec 87 p 7

["GDR Supports Struggle of Palestinian People; Erich Honecker to PLO Chairman on Anniversary"]

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has sent the following telegram to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Palestinian Revolution:

On the occasion of the 23d anniversary of the start of Palestinian resistance, I convey cordial congratulations to you, esteemed Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, to the PLO, and the entire friendly Palestinian people.

I take this opportunity to assure you again of the firm friendship and solidarity of the people of the GDR with the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO.

As a result of an active socialist peace policy and with the support of the peace forces all over the world, it became possible to agree upon significant disarmament measures and to take more far-reaching steps for the safeguarding of world peace.

The GDR will continue to act for a permanent settlement of the conflict in the Middle East within the framework of an international conference held under UN auspices, and thus for the realization of the national rights of the Palestinian people. All interested parties, including the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people should take part in such a conference on the basis of equal rights.

Please allow me to convey to you best wishes for personal well-being and further successes in the new year.

Erich Honecker,

General secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council

Greets Cuba's Castro

AU041150 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 31 Dec 87 p 2

["Fraternal Alliance Between GDR and Cuba Will Be Further Strengthened; Telegram on the Anniversary of the Victory of the Revolution"]

[Text] East Berlin (ND)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, and Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, have sent the following telegram to Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the

Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and chairman of the Council of State and Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba:

Esteemed Comrade Fidel Castro: On the occasion of the 29th anniversary of the revolution, we convey to you, the PCC Central Committee, the Council of State, the Council of Ministers, and the entire Cuban people most cordial congratulations and fraternal militant greetings from the SED Central Committee, the State Council, the Council of Ministers, as well as from the people of the GDR.

The victory of the revolution on 1 January 1959 opened up the prospect of a new and just social system for the Cuban people. Under the tested leadership of its Communist Party, the Cuban people achieved impressive successes in socialist construction. The resolutions of the Third PCC Congress are a reliable guarantee for further advancement.

In firm alliance with the Soviet Union and the other states of the socialist community, our two countries are making an important contribution in the struggle for the worldwide victory of the forces of reason and realism. The treaty on the elimination of the intermediate-range nuclear missiles of the Soviet Union and United States is a historic milestone on the road to a nuclear-free world.

We can state with satisfaction that the fraternal ties between our two parties, states, and peoples are developing successfully on the basis of the treaty of friendship and cooperation. The GDR will continue to do everything to further strengthen the fraternal alliance with Socialist Cuba.

On the occasion of your national day and at the start of a new year, we wish you, all communists and citizens of Cuba further progress in strengthening your socialist fatherland as well as good health and creative vigor.

Erich Honecker,

General secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council

Willi Stoph,

Chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers.

Congratulates Zimbabwe's Mugabe

AU041336 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2-3 Jan 88 p 1

["Congratulations for Mugabe on His Appointment; telegram from Erich Honecker to the president of Zimbabwe"]

[Text] East Berlin (ND)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has sent the following telegram to Robert Mugabe, president of the Republic of Zimbabwe:

It is a great pleasure for me to congratulate you on behalf of the SED Central Committee, the State Council, and the people of the GDR, as well as on my own behalf, on your appointment as president of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

I know that we share the conviction that our joint efforts to preserve world peace and to bring about disarmament, as well as the concurring position in the struggle to overcome colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, and apartheid form a good basis for the successful cooperation between the GDR and the Republic of Zimbabwe.

I couple my sincere wishes for the further flourishing of your country with the certainty that relations between our friendly states and peoples will continue to strengthen.

I wish you much success, creative energy, and well-being for your high responsibility.

Erich Honecker,

General secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council

SED Greets Argentine Communist Party

LD061132 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0301 GMT 6 Jan 88

[Text] Berlin, 6 Jan (ADN)—To mark the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of Argentina [PCA], the SED Central Committee has conveyed fraternal greetings to the PCA Central Committee. The founding of the first communist party in Latin America opened up a new perspective for the struggle of the working people of the country against imperialist hegemony and for national independence and a progressive social alternative. Neither persecution nor illegality has been able to break the resolution of this party.

"It gives us satisfaction that the long-standing traditional militant alliance between the German and Argentine Communists finds its continuation in the cooperation between the SED and the PCA," it is stressed. The agreement between the two parties on the basic issues of our time and their active work for the preservation of world peace and social progress form the guarantee for fruitful, comradely cooperation. The SED attentively follows the PCA's efforts "to contribute to the rallying of all forces that support the defense of democracy and social progress."

Greek Prime Minister To Visit 23 Jan

LD301750 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1552 GMT 30 Dec 87

[Text] Athens, 30 Dec 87 (ADN)—Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou will visit Berlin on 23 January for talks with Erich Honecker, chairman of the GDR State

Council, it was announced to the press in Athens Wednesday by Government Spokesman Sotiris Kostopolous. A working meal was also planned with Honecker.

The main focus of the talks will be bilateral issues and prospects for peace and disarmament after the signing of the treaty on the removal of medium-range nuclear weapons by Reagan and Gorbachev.

According to the government spokesman, the visit by the Greek head of state will take place on his way back from Stockholm, where Papandreou will attend the summit meeting of the six state initiative for peace and disarmament on 21 and 22 January.

Papandreou Comments

LD301806 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1218 GMT 30 Dec 87

[Text] Athens, 30 dec (ADN)—The continuation of dialogue between Greece and the GDR at the highest level offers new opportunities for discussing further steps to improve the international climate. This was stated by the Greek prime minister Andreas Papandreou, chairman of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement, on Wednesday on receiving a letter from Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council.

Horst Brie, GDR ambassador to Greece, who presented the letter, conveyed warm greetings from Erich Honecker, which were reciprocated. Papandreou said he was looking forward to his meeting with Erich Honecker in January with great hopes. After the signing of the agreement between the USSR and the united states on the scrapping of medium-range nuclear missiles, Greece and the GDR see opportunities for further serious disarmament steps.

In his letter Erich Honecker stresses that he shares the conviction expressed by Andreas Papandreou that the struggle of the peoples has today created more favorable conditions for securing world peace.

Although the international situation remains tense, mankind can entertain new hope. The agreement between the USSR and the united states encourages everyone to work to overcome barriers and to bring about a nuclear-free world and to move away from confrontation to detente.

One can justly say that today a worldwide coalition of reason and realism is already exerting a beneficial influence on international politics, Erich Honecker stresses. The dialogue for peace and mutually advantageous cooperation between states is underway. The six state initiative plays an important role among the forces that made a major contribution to this. The GDR was interested in the continuation of the hitherto constructive cooperation with this movement.

Hager Meets With USSR Culture Chief

LD062228 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1609 GMT 6 Jan 88

[Text] Berlin 6 Jan ADN—Kurt Hager, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, had a meeting today with a fact-finding delegation led by Yuriy Petrovich Voronov, chief of the Culture Department of the CPSU Central Committee.

There was an exchange of views on current tasks and questions of the development of culture and art in the two fraternal countries in implementation of the decisions of the 11th SED Congress and the 27th CPSU Congress.

Kurt Hager briefed the Soviet guests on the results of the 5th SED Central Committee meeting, pointing particularly to the creative contribution of the GDR artists and cultural workers for the safeguarding of peace and for the further development of socialist national culture.

Yuriy Voronov explained the new demands being made on all those working in the sphere of culture and art as a result of the present stage of social development in the USSR. The partners in the talk discussed the further deepening of cultural cooperation between the two fraternal parties and countries.

Taking part in the talk were Ursula Ragwitz, member of the Central Committee and director of the Culture Department of the SED Central Committee, and Vyacheslav Kochemasov, USSR ambassador to the GDR.

1988 National Economic Plan Law

AU301936 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 19-20 Dec 87 pp 11-13

["Law on the 1988 National Economic Plan of 18 December 1987"]

[Text] In implementation of the decisions of the 11th SED Congress, the 1988 national economic plan is directed at continuing the stable and dynamic development of the national economy and at the overall strengthening of the GDR on this basis. With the 1988 national economic plan, the main task in its unity of economic and social policy is being consistently continued for the benefit of the people and to safeguard peace.

In line with the economic strategy with a view to the year 2000, the 1988 national economic plan has to link the advantages of socialism even more effectively with the achievements of the scientific-technological revolution. It is necessary to reach high economic and social results in particular by continuing the fast development and broad application of the key technologies.

The 1988 national economic plan proceeds from the premise of universally using the material and intellectual conditions established for the dynamic development of

the productive forces and of purposefully developing them further. For this purpose, intensification is to be made increasingly comprehensive and lasting foundations are to be established for it.

With the tasks of the 1988 national economic plan it is necessary to achieve increased economic results from science and technology for the intensively expanded reproduction. For this purpose, top performances of international standard are to be accomplished in scientific-technological work, which contribute more and more effectively to raising the national income and labor productivity, to better product quality, and to the reduction of unity input of energy sources, raw materials and other materials, and thus of costs. Science is to be linked ever closer with production and production with science.

Through higher refinement of the available raw materials and materials, through purposeful renewal of products and technologies, and through socialist rationalization, more final goods are to be produced for supplies to the population, for the development of the national economy, and for fulfilling the tasks of foreign trade.

Investments are to be organized in such a way that putting into service according to plan and a high economic effect are ensured with utmost reliability for every project.

On the basis of the "Long-Term Program for the Development of Cooperation Between the GDR and the USSR in the Fields of Science, Technology, and Production for the Period Through the Year 2000" and the long-term programs of cooperation with the other CEMA member states, economic and scientific-technological cooperation is to be further deepened and is to be more intensively aimed at the basically new processes in science, technology, and production. With close cooperation in developing and applying high technologies in microelectronics and in other key technologies, an active contribution is also to be made to implementing the comprehensive program of scientific-technological progress of the CEMA countries.

In continuation of the socialist competition organized by the trade unions under the slogan "High performances for the benefit of the people and for peace—everything to implement the decisions of the 11th SED Congress," the working people's industriousness and creative initiatives are to be aimed at high performance and increased efficiency while at the same time improving working and living conditions. As an expression of socialist democracy in word and deed, the imaginativeness and creative work of the working people for the common good are to be taken into consideration everywhere in line with the tested principle: "Participate in working, in planning, in governing." It is necessary to make the working people's treasure of experiences, their suggestions, ideas, and hints even more effective. By comparing the performance standard that has been achieved and by broadly generalizing the best results and experiences, new sources for performance and increased efficiency are to be tapped. For this purpose, the measures decided to perfect management, planning, and economic cost accounting are to be actively used.

The workers class, the cooperative peasants, the members of the intelligentsia, the cultural workers, and the working people in all sectors are called upon to achieve great labor feats for the overall and dynamic development of the GDR. In socialist competition all forces are to be mobilized for the fulfillment and product-specific overfulfillment of the 1988 national economic plan and political dedication, high readiness for performance, as well as creative and imaginative actions are to be developed. The local people's representative bodies and their councils must more intensively use the regional conditions to increase performance in the national economy and to improve the citizens' working and living conditions.

The contribution of the young people to the economic strengthening of the GDR in line with the decisions of the 11th SED Congress is to be further expanded. The young people's scientific-technological creativity is to be purposefully promoted through comprehensive support for the FDJ's economic initiatives, in particular the movement of the Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow, through expanding the contribution of FDJ young researchers' collectives to working out top scientific-technological achievements. Special attention is to be paid to support for existing youth brigades and to the establishment of new ones.

Through qualified leadership work and the distribution of the 1988 national economic plan tasks also in work collectives, brigades, and if possible—among all working people, conditions have to be created for everyone to do his best for the strengthening of socialism in accordance with the slogan "My workplace—my combat station for peace."

I.

The following growth rates have to be realized for the development of the national economy in 1988:

1988 as a percentage of 1987	
Produced national income	104.1
Net output in the industry ministries sector	108.0
Labor productivity in the industry ministries sector on the basis of net output	108.0
Industrial commodity output in the industry ministries sector	104.1
Industrial commodity output in the national economy	103.6
Reduction of prime cost per M100 worth of commodity output in the industry ministries sector to	98.4
Reduction of material cost per M100 worth of commodity output in the industry ministries sector to	98.3

1988 as a percentage of 1987	
Produced national income	104.1
Building output in centrally and locally administered construction industries	103.3
Establishment of apartments through new building and modernization (in terms of housing units)	100.6
Output and performance of agriculture, forestry, and the foodstuffs industry	101.6
Performance of the transportation and communications sector	101.7
Retail trade turnover	104.0
Net money income of the population	104.0
Foreign trade turnover	102.6

The economic tasks related to safeguarding the national defense capability as well as internal security and order must be responsibly fulfilled

II.

The following targets for the further performance increase in industry are fixed by the 1988 national economic plan:

1988 as a percentage of 1987			
Ministry of:	Net output	Labor productivity	Industrial commodity output
Coal and power	104.5	104.3	103.1
Ore mining, metallurgy, and potash	106.3	106.3	101.7
Chemical industry	112.5	112.3	104.4
Electrical engineering and electronics	111.7	111.6	108.8
Heavy machinery and installation construction	106.2	105.7	104.3
Machine tool and processing machinery construction	110.3	109.8	107.8
General machinery, agricultural machinery, and vehicle construction	110.3	109.6	105.1
Light industry	109.6	107.9	104.9
Glass and ceramics	105.3	105.3	104.1
Bezirk-administered industry and foodstuffs industry	106.8	106.8	103.1

Industry has to continue to contribute the main proportion of the economic performance increase and to make an important contribution to raising the national income by means of comprehensive intensification. The range of goods is to be purposefully developed—by utilizing latest scientific-technological results—in line with the requirements of intensively expanded reproduction and the supply of demand-oriented products for the population, the economy, and foreign trade. New requirements have to be met by flexible reactions. The necessary qualitative renewal in the range of goods and in technologies is to be achieved quickly and efficient production of high numbers of goods is to be organized.

—In order to ensure stable economic growth, the speed of the production and application of key technologies is to be further increased. In all sectors microelectronics is to be made increasingly effective on a broad basis for favorably priced production, more and more economical use of materials and energy, for automation of work process, and for the improvement of working and living conditions. The following targets are fixed for the manufacture of products of national economic importance:

	Measuring unit	1988
Unipolar integrated circuits	1,000 units	42,371
Bipolar integrated circuits	1,000 units	93,784
Office and personal computers	units	60,000
including: computers with		
16-bit processing range	units	30,000
Foil memories	units	50,000
Serial-parallel printers	units	112,600
Glass fiber cables	km	9,500
Special technical equipment for active electronic component parts	million Marks	429
Special technical equipment for passive electronic component parts	million Marks	66
Equipment for microlithography	million Marks	366
Equipment and facilities for monitoring, regulation, and control	million Marks	2,575

—The national economy's base of raw materials and other materials is to be further expanded by comprehensively utilizing domestic means, secondary materials, and waste products, and through their utmost refinement by means of applying highly productive technologies and methods. The procurement of new materials and high-quality chemical products is to be increased. The "Intensification of production of highly refined chemical fiber materials" central youth project will be concluded in 1988. The following targets are fixed for the production of important raw materials and other materials:

	Measuring unit	1988
Rolled steel, total	1,000 tonnes	9,675
of that: refined rolled steel	1,000 tonnes	8,220
Fire-refined and electrolytic copper	tonnes	48,100
Tin	tonnes	2,470
Potassium fertilizers	1,000 tonnes K2O	3,504
Nitrogen fertilizers	1,000 tonnes N	1,446
High-pressure polyethylene	1,000 tonnes	157
Synthetic fibers	tonnes	109,389

—The national economy's energy and fuel basis is to be developed in a stable way on the basis of domestic energy sources, in particular raw brown coal. Further conditions for the refinement of brown coal to high-quality energy sources and chemical raw materials are to be established. The development of nuclear energy is to be purposefully continued. The following targets are fixed for the production of important energy sources:

	Measuring units	1988
Electric power	gigawatt hours	119,273
Raw brown coal	1,000 tonnes	317,200
Brown coal briquettes and dust	1,000 tonnes	52,804
City gas	million cubic meters	8,146

—The following targets are fixed for the production of modern equipment and machinery for the rationalization of the national economy and for exports:

	Measuring unit	1988
Strip mining equipment	million Marks	1,266
Cutting machine tools	million Marks	3,496
Machinery and equipment for the printing industry	million Marks	1,131
Machinery and equipment for the textile, clothing, and leather industry	million Marks	1,086
Ventilating and air-conditioning equipment	million Marks	513
Machinery and equipment for the foodstuffs industry	million Marks	647

—As a decisive precondition for raising the quality and technical standard of final goods, high-quality subcontractor products are to be developed. In the production of important subcontractor products that are decisive for economic growth, above-average growth rates have to be reached. Supplies of spare parts have to be ensured by raising the production and quality of spare parts and components parts for maintenance. The following targets are fixed for the production of important goods:

	Measuring unit	1988
Products for hydraulics	million Marks	1,222
Roller bearings	million Marks	955
Fittings	million Marks	1,840
Pumps and compressors	million Marks	1,236
Products for hydraulics	million Marks	1,222
Roller bearings	million Marks	955
Special electrical equipment for road vehicles	million Marks	1,629
Automobile tires	1,000 units	6,742

—The production of consumer goods, in particular of high-quality industrial consumer goods, which demonstrate top scientific-technological standards with regard to refinement of material and service value, are readily bought by the population, and can be effectively exported, is to be further increased. In order to produce demand-oriented high-quality consumer goods and important subcontractor products, product lines have to be further established and expanded in those combines that primarily manufacture producer goods—product lines which permit the economical production of high numbers of high-quality goods on the basis of the GDR's domestic raw materials and other materials.

The existing "Consumer goods production" FDJ youth projects are to be supported, and further youth projects have to be assigned.

In line with the steadily rising degree of the people's households being supplied with durable industrial consumer goods, supplies of spare parts and accessories, as well as their quality, are to be further increased.

The following targets are fixed for the production of important consumer goods:

	Measuring unit	1988
Color television sets	1,000 units	553
Children's outerwear	1,000 units	26,307
Young people's outerwear	1,000 units	3,836
Men's outerwear	1,000 units	16,087
Ladies' outerwear	1,000 units	18,285
Hosiery	million pairs	433
Textile floor coverings	1,000 square meters	43,205
Leather goods	million Marks	1,085
Furniture and upholstered goods	million Marks	7,800
Toys	million Marks	1,446
Household refrigerators	1,000 units	1,131
including household freezers	1,000 units	566

The construction sector has to ensure the fulfillment of the tasks to strengthen the national economy's material-technical basis, to consistently implement the housing program, and to fulfill export targets in high quality and efficiency and to further improve supplies of building materials to the population.

The following performance increase is to be reached in the sector of the Ministry of Construction:

	1988 as a percentage of 1987
Increase in building output to	103.3
Increase in net output to	105.5
Increase in labor productivity to	105.3

Through timely and thorough preparation of investments, those placing orders—in close cooperation with the construction and equipment enterprises—have to create good conditions for concentrated and continuous building with declining input. With the help of comparative performance appraisals, higher results in the use of construction machinery in terms of time are to be reached. Timely completion of industrial investment projects that ensure the national economy's performance increase is to be safeguarded according to plan. For this purpose, capacity, efficiency, and quality of industrial construction are to be considerably improved. The degree of prefabrication and completion in industrial construction is to be raised.

The performance of building design is to be developed at above-average speed by applying computer-aided systems.

It is to be made sure that the production of the construction and building materials industry is to be aimed even more strongly at the increasing share of building measures in reconstruction, modernization, and maintenance of the existing building stock. The production process of the building materials industry is to be further rationalized. For this purpose, the task is set to more highly refine domestic raw materials and secondary materials and to further reduce process energy. Products and technologies of the construction sector are to be developed in such a way that their utility and processing characteristics are improved, their quality and durability are raised, the input necessary for maintenance is reduced, and high insulation against loss of heat is achieved.

The development according to plan of agriculture, forestry, and the foodstuffs industry as an efficient part of the national economy is to be directed at ensuring food for the population as the most important contribution to solving the main task, at expanding the domestic raw material basis, further raising the efficiency of foreign trade relations, at effective reproduction of the environment, and at making an increasing contribution to the national income. It is necessary to develop agriculture even more into a branch of applied sciences by means of comprehensive intensification. For this purpose, cooperation of science and practical work in organizing top achievements, maximum yields in the fields, and maximum performances in the animal sheds is to be deepened and best experiences on the basis of comparative performance appraisals are to be widely applied. Unjustified differences are to be purposefully eliminated.

The per-hectare yield of vegetable and animal products is to be increased more quickly than the input in human and materialized labor. With this it is intended to tap further reserves for increasing of net production by reducing unit input. The natural conditions and biological growth factors are to be used increasingly better. The deepening of cooperation between crop and livestock production has to contribute even more effectively to increasing performance and efficiency in agriculture. The economic potentials of the villages are to be purposefully tapped and the apparance of the villages is to be further beautified. Crop production has to be developed with priority. By means of the comprehensive application of all intensification measures potential maximum yields are to be striven for and stabilized everywhere with regard to all crops.

In order to improve fruit and vegetable supplies, the natural and economically most favorable locations for production as well as the created assets have to be fully used. The tasks set down for production, storage, and processing of fruit and vegetables are to be fulfilled according to plan. At the same time initiatives for the creation of further possibilities of preprocessing and processing in the LPG's, horticultural producer cooperatives, and state farms are to be promoted.

In crop production the following targets have to be reached:

	Measuring unit	1988
Crop production calculated in terms of grain equivalent units per hectare of agriculturally usable land	decitonnes	49.2
Per-hectare yield of grain	decitonnes	45.3
Grain output	million tonnes	11.4
State procurement of		
potatoes	1,000 tonnes	2,655
sugar beets	1,000 tonnes	6,000
fruit	1,000 tonnes	772
vegetables	1,000 tonnes	1,540

In livestock production, the planned production performance increase is to be achieved by raising performance per animal. The measures set down in the maximum-yield concepts to improve the economical use of fodder, to raise breeding results, and to reduce animal losses are to be implemented consistently. The quality of raw hides and furs for the processing industry is to be increased. The following state procurement has to be reached in livestock production:

	Measuring units	1988
Slaughter animals	1,000 tonnes	2,650
Milk, calculated in terms of 4-percent fat content	1,000 tonnes	7,540
Eggs	million units	4,810
Wool	tonnes	8,000

Accepting and implementing youth projects, in particular for irrigation and grain, root crop, fodder, and fruit harvest, in the FDJ "Livestock Production" initiative for the rationalization and modernization of animal sheds, and the FDJ "Economical Use of Fodder" drive, are to be supported.

The working people in the enterprises of the foodstuffs industry have to store and process the available raw materials with lowest-possible losses. In ensuring high efficiency and raising the degree of refinement, it is necessary above all to improve and expand the range of goods and the quality of the entire food supply for the population. The measures planned to modernize the state-owned meat industry and to supply cooling equipment in the branches of the foodstuffs industry are to be consistently implemented.

Forestry has to secure supplies of raw timber and resin at the required dates and in the required ranges. In this regard, more attention has to be paid to caring for and protecting the forests as well as to the efficient use of broken, dry, and thin wood. Consumer goods production is to be increased to 108 percent.

Further responsible tasks have to be given to the young people in the FDJ "Healthy Forest" drive.

In 1988, forestry has to provide 10.8 million cubic meters of raw timber.

The transportation sector has to meet the national economic demands with respect to transportation in domestic goods traffic and goods traffic across borders. In order to increase the capacity and efficiency of the railroads, the proportion of electric haulage is to be raised to more than 45 percent. In 1988, electrification of railroad tracts is to be continued according to plan as a central FDJ youth project.

The demand for goods transportation is to be further reduced in all economic sectors by optimizing relations between production and transportation. The use of transportation facilities must be improved by making full use of carrying capacities and continuously using all space available for transportation. For this purpose, speedy loading and unloading in three shifts on all days and careful handling of transportation equipment are to be ensured.

Passenger transportation is to be developed according to plan. Local transportation is a focal issue. It is to be made more attractive and ecologically beneficial through the further expansion of electric facilities. Commuter and student transportation must be improved.

In order to ensure the planned performance in passenger and goods transportation, all kreise have to enforce comprehensive rationalization of transportation processes in the region by integrating all economic sectors and all means of transport. The measures initiated to raise the capacity and stability of the transportation sector, especially with regard to the railroads, are to be purposefully continued.

The tasks of transportation, loading, and unloading for the GDR's foreign trade and for transit traffic are to be fulfilled at the required date and with high efficiency.

Railroad ferry traffic between the GDR and the USSR is to be fully used continuously and is to be expanded by using another ferry boat.

The following targets have to be reached:

	1988 as a percentage of 1987
Increase in public goods transportation services in domestic traffic:	
German Railroads	to 100.9
Inland navigation	to 108.3
Increase in transshipping services of seaports	to 101.2

In the post and telecommunications sector, services supplying the population and the national economy must be increased to 102.7 percent through comprehensive intensification as well as through modernization and higher use of available facilities.

In order to improve supplies to the population, 65,000 telephone hook-ups have to be established. The network of public direct-dial pay phones is to be further expanded. The establishment of an automated data network is to be started.

In the post and newspaper sector, mail forwarding times have to be shortened and service for the customer at the post-office counters is to be further improved.

With research and prospecting work in 1988, geology has to safeguard the necessary basis of resources for the more intensive use of domestic mineral raw materials. Prospecting work has to be primarily directed at finding new natural gas and oil fields, at increasing the stocks of brown coal, natural raw potassic salt, fluorspar and heavy spar, raw materials for the building, glass, and ceramics industries, and drinking water, as well as at finding and efficiently using geothermal resources. Performance development and the efficiency of prospecting work are to be purposefully improved by applying modern prospecting methods and technologies. Natural gas production is to be carried out according to plan and in a stable way.

In the interest of steadily improving the citizens' working and living conditions, the protection of the natural environment is to be most closely linked with the tasks of recycling usable materials by using new scientific-technological insights. The targets for reducing the burden of pollutants to the environment are to be increasingly fulfilled—as a part of production rationalization—through such scientific-technical and technological measures that, at the same time, ensure the highly economical use of energy, raw materials, and other materials.

In water management measures must focus on ensuring a stable, good-quality supply of drinking water to the population, the innocuous removal of waste water, and on ensuring the necessary development work for the housing program. In 1988, it is to be guaranteed that

another 227,000 citizens receive a hook-up to the central water supply and 80,000 citizens get a hook-up to waste-water removal and treatment facilities. Economic use of water is to be continued in all sectors of the national economy and society with the aim of safeguarding the national economic reproduction process with basically the same amount of water used.

III.

A fundamental task in implementing the 1988 national economic plan is to make more effective the qualitative factors for the further performance increase in accordance with the economic strategy with a view to the year 2000 and thus further improving the input-output ratio.

1. Through comprehensive intensification, labor productivity is to be developed more quickly in all sectors and branches of the national economy in 1988. The following targets have to be reached:

	Measuring unit	1988
Saving of man-hours through measures of scientific-technological progress		
National economy, total	million hours	612.6
of this, in the industry ministries sector	million hours	485.2
in the construction industry	million hours	53.4

Through widespread application of the key technologies—in particular through the automation of entire technological processes and manufacturing stages by applying microelectronics and computer technology, including CAD/CAM solutions, flexible manufacturing systems, and robot technology—the technical standard of production is to be raised. In close connection with socialist rationalization, it is necessary to further improve the working people's working and living conditions.

The following tasks have to be fulfilled:

	Measuring units	1988
Establishment of CAD/CAM work stations	units	23,500
New application of industrial robots in the national economy	units	15,620

The experiences from the Schwedt initiative have to be used even more comprehensively in order to gain labor—by saving jobs—for the solution of focal tasks of the national economy. For this purpose, the directors general of the combines and the enterprise managers have to organize close cooperation with the local state organs.

The exact observance of technological discipline and order in the production process as well as of the regulations to avoid work accidents, dysfunctions, fires, and break-downs is to be ensured. Together with the working people and the boards of directors and executive committees of the trade union, the managers have to work out, discuss, and consistently implement specific measures to fully use work time and to reduce influenceable down-times.

Scientific organization of labor is to be aimed at reducing necessary work time through rationalization and automation of entire production stages and manufacturing lines on the basis of modern technologies and new products. Focal points of the restructuring and new establishment of workplaces are work processes with a high proportion of manual and monotonous work, those in auxiliary production processes and production preparation, as well as jobs involving work hardships. The proportion of management and administrative personnel is to be further reduced.

In close and trusting cooperation with the working people, the managers have to set down the measures necessary to ensure—through the use of new technologies—right from the start high production amounts, effective improvements of the economical use of materials and energy, and cost reductions.

By continuing the achievement-oriented wage policy, the stimulating effect of the socialist performance principle of "Each according to his abilities, to each according to his performance" for the further economic and social progress, the increase of labor productivity, and the further consolidation of the socialist attitude toward work and social property is to be further increased.

2. By comprehensively using science and technology, important economic results are to be achieved in all sectors and branches of the national economy. For this purpose, the development and application of high technologies, such as microelectronics, optoelectronics, sensory and computer technology, glass fiber and laser technology, and biotechnology, are to be continued in a concentrated way.

In order to keep pace with the fast international development of productive forces, it is increasingly important to accomplish top achievements in developing new products and efficient technologies. The combines and enterprises have to be given highly demanding tasks for the implementation of the science and technology plans and the economic results that have to be achieved in this connection and that have an effect on the balance sheets. The FDJ young researchers' collectives are to be assigned economically important projects, in particular from the Science and Technology State Plan, in order to increase the contribution of young innovators, inventors, engineers, scientists, and students to scientific-technological top achievements.

In all combines, production renewal is to be developed according to plan and to be made even more profitable from the economic point of view. On the basis of demanding targets set down in the tasking workbooks

and of the use concepts in the renewal passes—as a unity of production and technology development—it is to be ensured that new products are produced at favorable prices within a short period of time and in numbers that meet the demand. Quality production is to be increased everywhere and has to correspond to high international standards. In socialist competition the mass initiative for faultless production is to be comprehensively promoted under such tested slogans as "My hand for my product," "Everybody delivers good quality to everybody else," and "Those who want to buy good quality have to produce quality."

The following targets have to be reached:

	Measuring unit	1988
Production volume of newly developed products in industry	billion Marks	120.8
Degree of production renewal in industry	percent	29.6
Production increase concerning products with the "Q" quality mark in the national economy to	percent	109.7

In 1988 a total of M13.5 billion will be used in the national economy for the development of science and technology.

By expanding the combines' own scientific-technological potential and using research cooperation with the institutions of the GDR Academy of Sciences and the technical school sector, which is based on the plan and on economic contracts, scientific-technological work is to be concentrated on the national economic focal points of performance and efficiency development. The GDR Academy of Sciences, the other academies, the universities, and the colleges have to reach results with a high scientific standard in the field of basic research in mathematics, natural sciences, technological sciences, and social sciences.

The innovators and innovators' collectives are to be assigned specific tasks aimed at a high increase in labor productivity and efficiency, a reduction of production input and costs, modernization and economical use of the basic assets, at working out new, original product ideas, increasing export rentability with regard to newly-developed products, at and improving the working people's working conditions. The innovators, rationalizers, FDJ young researchers' collectives, and the enterprise sections of the Chamber of Technology, are to be actively integrated into working out the targets and tasks.

The initiatives of the young people in the Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow Movement are to be directed at fulfilling tasks from the science and technology plans. Conditions have to be created so that all FDJ members and other young people, in particular all youth brigades, can participate in this movement all through the year. The combines and enterprises as well as the responsible central and local state organs have to comprehensively organize the fastest possible introduction of the exhibits of the Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow into production and their widespread subsequent use.

3. In 1988, highly economical use of energy and materials is to be enforced in all sectors of the national economy. The following targets are to be reached:

	1988 as a percentage of 1987
Reduction of energy use in the economy	by 3.8
Reduction of unit input of rolled steel in the metal-working industry	by 7.0
rolled steel in the construction sector	by 6.5
cement in the construction sector	by 5.0

This requires the increased use of domestic raw material and energy resources, higher refinement of available raw materials and energy sources, and the increasing use of available secondary energy. New materials with favorable characteristics with regard to their economical use must be increasingly developed, produced, and effectively applied in the renewal of the product ranges. Through the introduction and widespread use of scientific-technological results, the following savings with an effect on the balance sheets have to be reached in 1988 with regard to economically important materials:

	Measuring units	1988
Rolled steel	1,000 tonnes	502
Aluminum	1,000 tonnes	8.4
Copper	1,000 tonnes	2.6
Cement	1,000 tonnes	360

As a main source of meeting the national economy's energy demand, the economical use and transformation of energy is to be comprehensively applied and, in particular, the saving of electric power by means of high scientific-technological achievements in the combines and enterprises is to be ensured. Proceeding from the experiences and results of the initiative of the VEB Carl Zeiss Jena Combine to save electric power, a broad mass initiative is to be developed in all branches and sectors of the national economy in order to tap reserves of all energy sources.

For this purpose, the initiatives of the working people in socialist competition, those of the young people in the FDJ "Economical use of material" drive and in the FDJ "Economical use of energy" initiative, as well as those of the innovators' movement are to be aimed at reaching the targets set for the reduction of unit input of economically important energy sources, raw materials, and other materials, and for the reduction of material costs through enterprise measures of intensification and rationalization.

The 1988 coordinated energy plan in the ministries, combines, enterprises, and regions is to be developed into an effective instrument of management work. The combines, enterprises, and institutions have to achieve full coordination between energy input quotas and energy-saving measures.

Work with enterprise norms and central state norm targets for energy and material input is to be more intensively aimed at making the product-specific economical use of energy and materials resulting from measures of scientific-technological progress effective more quickly.

The recycling of available secondary raw materials and industrial waste products in the cycle of enterprises and the national economy is to be made even more effective and to be increased to 33 million tonnes.

The focal point is the continuous supply to the processing economic branches of ferrous and nonferrous metal scrap, waste paper, waste oil, thermoplastic wastes, returnable glass containers, and wood scraps. All combines are charged with the task of ensuring the use of materials gained from slags, sludge, lyes, ashes, flue gases, and waste water. For this purpose, the tasks and measures fixed for the transferal of scientific-technological results to production and the establishment of capacities to find and recycle secondary raw materials and industrial waste products are to be implemented.

The initiatives of the FDJ, the "Ernst Thaelmann" Pioneer Organization, the Democratic Women's League of Germany, and the other mass organizations, as well as of the residential areas committees of the GDR National Front for the collection of secondary raw materials are to be effectively supported.

4. In 1988 investments of M74.1 billion have to be made in the national economy.

The available material and financial investment means are to be primarily concentrated on the rationalization and modernization of the existing basic assets in order to ensure dynamic performance growth and a high increase in labor productivity. With regard to each planned investment project, thorough preparation, timely putting into operation, and high economic effect are to be reliably ensured. With this the speedy economic use of the most advanced results of science and technology, in particular the results of state assignments and other tasks of the Science and Technology State Plan, is to be ensured.

Construction and assembly work, as well as deliveries of equipment are to be organized in such a way that the projects fixed by the plan are fully effective for production at the required dates, the planned input is observed, and the planned technical-economic performance parameters are reached within a short period.

By combining the modernization of plants and the use of supplementary new equipment, branch-specific rationalization means, as well as microelectronics and robot technologies into complex modernization solutions for entire production stages, top effects are to be achieved. Further tasks for this purpose are to be assigned to the young people in the FDJ "Microelectronics" and "Robot Technology" initiatives.

The use in terms of time of the basic assets, in particular of important production equipment, as well as all operating machinery and all machine tools, is to be purposefully further increased:

	Measuring unit	1988
Utilization of important production equipment in terms of time in plant-intensive branches of basic material industry as a whole	hours per calendar day	18-20
in processing industry as a whole	hours per calendar day	17.3

The combines' in-house production of rationalization equipment is to be purposefully developed into the center of top modern technologies and the main carrier of the material-technological preconditions for the speedy transferral of new products and methods, and thus into the most important carrier of production modernization and automation. This includes the development and production of user-specific microelectronic component parts and a demand-oriented development of tool manufacture. In-house production of branch-specific rationalization equipment is to be raised to 118.1 percent in the sector of the industry ministries. The proportion of designers, project-planners, and engineers as well as the application of CAD/CAM technology in in-house production of rationalization equipment are to be considerably increased.

5. In all sectors of the national economy, the available material and financial funds are to be used with utmost efficiency.

Further reserves are to be tapped by means of continuous analyses of the reproduction process and the working out of cost-reduction concepts, and the input-output ratio is to be improved by reaching penetrating and durable results with regard to the reduction of prime cost.

The following targets have to be reached:

	1988 as a percentage of 1987
Reduction of prime cost in the sector of the industry ministries	by 1.6
the Ministry of Construction	by 2.2
the state-owned agriculture and foodstuffs industry	by 0.5

	1988 as a percentage of 1987
Reduction of material costs in the sector of the industry ministries	by 1.7
the Ministry of Construction	by 2.1

The method of pre- and postcalculation of products is to be effectively used. The influenceable cost targets are to be itemized with regard to production sectors, departments, and brigades; on this basis the participation of all working people in the struggle to reduce costs and the work with cost accounting books are to be ensured.

Effective measures have to be set down to reduce expenditures that are not necessary for society, in particular by avoiding down-times in loading and unloading train cars, sanctions for surplus in current assets, and costs for waste products, refinishing work, and guarantee services.

Performance increase is to be linked everywhere with economical stock management.

6. The local people's representative bodies have to ensure by their work that the plan tasks are fulfilled at the required dates and in the required quality in those production sectors that they administer directly, in particular in locally administered agriculture, in bezirk-administered industry, in the bezirk- and kreis-administered construction sector, and in the local public utilities sector.

The further strengthening of bezirk-administered combines requires the consistent continuation of comprehensive rationalization of existing facilities and the purposeful modernization of the basic assets. For this purpose, specific agreements and contracts are to be concluded with centrally administered combines for technological aid and support in producing the necessary rationalization equipment.

The 1988 annual plans of the bezirk and kreise have to set down the necessary regional preconditions for the implementation according to plan of industrial investment projects, central focal production projects, and of technical projects.

As a main path toward fulfilling the tasks required by the entire state and by communal policy, the local state organs have to comprehensively use all possibilities provided by regional rationalization and have to improve the citizens' working and living conditions according to plan. For this purpose, result-oriented team work of combines, enterprises, cooperatives, and institutions among each other and with the local state organs is to be ensured.

The local councils have to promote the citizens' initiatives and their creative participation and have to make their suggestions effective in their work.

Order and security are to be guaranteed in all sectors of the national economy and in every town and village. The measures set down to improve health and work protection, to increase protection against fires and disasters, and to avoid break-downs are to be consistently implemented.

IV.

The people's material and cultural standard of living is to be improved on the basis of further raising performances and efficiency within the national economy.

In housing construction the following targets have to be reached through new construction and modernization:

	Measuring unit	1988
Apartments to be completed	housing units	211,462
among them:		
newly constructed apartments	housing units	110,000
modernized apartments	housing units	101,462
including:		
construction of private homes	housing units	11,513

This is to create further preconditions to fulfill the historic task of solving the housing question as a social problem in the GDR by 1990.

The existing housing stock is to be used with high sociopolitical effectiveness. For this purpose, the performance development of the kreis-administered construction sector and of housing management is to be closely linked with further improving the quality of work in housing policy. By more intensively concentrating on modernization, value preservation, and repairs, the quality of the available housing space is to be further raised. To this end, the performances of the enterprises for building repairs to apartment houses and for modernization are to be raised to 106.5 percent in 1988 compared with 1987. The FDJ "Rebuild and Expand" drive is to be effectively promoted in all regions in line with the experiences in Spremberg Kreis.

Within the framework of comprehensive housing construction, the planned community facilities, such as schools, school gymnasiums, kindergartens, nurseries, youth clubs, apartment houses for senior citizens, retirement homes with nursing stations, polyclinics, out-patient clinics, sales outlets, inns, including facilities for dispensing meals to pupils, and other service facilities, are to be finished punctually and in the required quality for supply to and care for the population, while observing the state's norm targets.

In 1988, M30.5 billion are to be used for the implementation of the housing program and for housing management.

—In the area of supply to the population:

	1988 as a percentage of 1987
Net money income of the population	104
Retail trade turnover	104

Supply to the population of basic consumer goods—above all staple foods—products for children, the 1,000 little things, spare parts, and other important products is to be stably and reliably ensured. It is necessary to further raise the quality and quantity of the offer of demand-oriented products of youth fashion.

The offer of fashionable consumer goods that are in high demand, have improved user characteristics, and a high technical standard is to be expanded. This primarily applies to clothing, entertainment electronics, household goods, and products for housing and leisure time.

The policy of stable consumer prices for basic consumer goods as well as for rents, fees, and services is to be continued according to plan. The development and production of goods in high demand is to be ensured in great variety. Consumer prices for new, high-quality products are to be fixed—as to date—in such a way that they principally cover the costs and result in the profit necessary for the enterprise and for society. The offer of high-quality luxury commodities and foods is to be increased in accordance with the population's rising demands.

—Services and repairs for the population are to be increased according to plan.

The following targets have to be reached:

	1988 as a percentage of 1987
Services and repairs for the population	to 104.2
Automobile maintenance services for the population	to 109.8

The standard of service to the customers is to be raised, waiting times are to be purposefully reduced, and the quality and variety of services is to be increased. The state-owned service combines and enterprises are to be developed into high-capacity centers of supply to the population and the corresponding social forces, and further reserves are to be tapped in cooperative and private crafts, including the promotion of small private businesses.

Municipal services are to be expanded in accordance with the requirements of cleanliness, hygiene, and order in towns and villages, as well as those of environmental protection. The availability of technology for municipal services is to be raised by socialist teamwork of the enterprises for municipal services with high-capacity combines, enterprises, and cooperatives in the region.

—The socialist education sector is to be further developed at a qualitatively higher level in line with the demands resulting from the further shaping of the developed socialist society.

In public education, the perfection of socialist general knowledge is to be further continued. The standard of all training and education work and the quality of teaching are to be purposefully raised; the polytechnic character of the secondary school is to be further developed.

In public education the following facilities are to be newly established or renovated:

	1988
Classrooms	2,035
Kindergarten places	21,462
School gymnasiums	145

Vocational training is to guarantee basic and advanced training of skilled workers and master craftsmen in all professions and technical branches necessary for the national economy. In 1988, 175,448 graduates, including 10,440 with university entrance exams, are to be admitted into vocational training and trained as qualified skilled workers in line with the plan targets in the branches of the national economy. A sufficient number of trainees in military jobs is to be ensured for the armed organs.

With the support of the local councils, the combines and enterprises have to guarantee their planned number of future skilled workers on the basis of the decided targets and in the fixed structure.

The working people are to be qualified according to plan for the new requirements of work, in particular by means of adult training.

The university and technical school sector has to create the necessary lead in education for the accelerated application of science and technology in the national economy. In the university and technical school sector, 72,680 students are to be admitted into university or technical school studies in 1988, including 53,970 students for direct studies.

The university and technical school sector has to aim basic and advanced training particularly at mastering the key technologies.

The relations of universities and colleges with the combines, which are based on economic foundations, are to be comprehensively expanded and directed at reaching top achievements. An increasing number of joint FDJ young researchers' collectives are to be formed as a contribution to solving these tasks.

The following facilities are to be newly established or renovated:

	1988
Places in lecture halls and seminar rooms, and places for studying	4,900
Places in dormitories	1,850

—In continuation of the health policy outlined by the 11th SED Congress, health protection and medical and social care for the citizens will be further perfected. Focal points are the further development of preventive health care and basic medical treatment, in particular care for the citizens by their own doctor. By steadily increasing the quality and efficiency of work in the health and social sector, increasing benefit can be achieved for the people's health, capacity, and feeling of social protection.

For medical and social care for the population, the following facilities are to be established by new construction and renovation:

	1988
Workplaces for mobile doctors	326
Stomatological workplaces	231
Pharmaceutical workplaces	62
Places in nurseries	9,982
Places in retirement homes with nursing stations	4,500

The projects have to be consistently realized at the required locations and at the required time.

—In developing the recreation sector, it is necessary to primarily further improve the quality of the conditions for recreation of the working people and to pay the utmost attention to renovating and modernizing existing facilities, in particular those of the trade union's holiday program and of youth tourism. Particular attention is to be paid to the recreation of families with several children, of shift workers, and of handicapped citizens.

The following tasks have to be fulfilled:

	1988
Vacation trips for the FDGB and the enterprises	5,100,000
Establishment and renovation of places in FDGB recreation homes	2,833

Construction is to be started on new FDGB recreation homes in Boltenhagen, Rostock Bezirk; Tabarz, Erfurt Bezirk; and Oberhof, Suhl Bezirk.

—For the development of the athletic-touristic and intellectual-cultural life of the young people, possibilities are to be improved in the youth tourism and youth club facilities in 1988 through renovation, modernization, and expansion according to plan of existing facilities while actively integrating the youth's initiatives.

The FDJ "Jugendtourist" travel agency organizes 1,831,400 vacation trips at home and abroad for the GDR's young people. Renovation and modernization is to be continued according to plan in 31 central Pioneer camps. In nine Pioneer camps renovated objects have to be handed over for use during the 1988 summer vacations.

Within the framework of comprehensive housing construction, 27 youth club facilities with 3,671 places are to be established in 1988; using agricultural facilities and with support from the Peasants' Mutual Aid Association and the Association of Consumer Cooperatives, another 52 youth club facilities with 4,010 places are to be established.

The number of high-standard dancing events for young people in inns and all other appropriate facilities must be raised in line with demand.

—Physical culture and sports are to be promoted in an overall way as a part of the socialist way of life.

It is particularly necessary to develop in an increasingly effective way the mass character of physical culture and sports and of work in the sections of the Society for Sports and Technology.

The following facilities are to be completed and put into operation by means of new construction and renovation:

	1988
Sports facilities	297
including:	
gymnasiums	159
including:	
school gymnasiums	145
sports grounds	93

Supply of sports products, sports clothing, and sports shoes is to be further improved.

—The increasing cultural needs of the working people have to be met even more comprehensively and the development of their personality and their readiness for performance have to be promoted by further developing socialist culture and arts. All suitable facilities must be used more effectively for the intellectual-cultural life.

In towns and villages further conditions have to be created for a rich intellectual-cultural life. Special attention has to be paid to the development of the young people's intellectual-cultural life, in particular in the FDJ youth clubs.

A rising supply of books and brochures, records, and music cassettes in high quality is to be guaranteed.

The construction of the Schiller Museum in Weimar has to be concluded. The reconstruction of the German Cathedral in the Platz der Akademie as an artistic hall, the reconstruction projects of the Museum Island and the German Opera House in Berlin, as well as the work to complete the Peasant War Memorial in Bad Frankenhausen will be continued.

—Television and radio have to further raise the effectiveness of their programs in order to better and better meet the people's increasing demand for information, education, and diverse entertainment. Reception of radio programs, in particular of the DT 64 Youth Radio, and of television programs is to be further improved according to plan.

V.

The tasks for further deepening socialist economic integration, which result from the long-term programs for the development of cooperation in the fields of science, technology, and production as well as from the comprehensive program of scientific-technological progress of the CEMA states through the year 2,000 and the long-term trade agreements, have to be fulfilled.

On the basis of the government agreement concluded between the GDR and the USSR to develop direct relations between enterprises, associations, and combines, and to deepen direct cooperation in science, technology, and production, it is in particular cooperation in such fields as microelectronics, robot technology, electronics, nuclear energy, biotechnology, and the creation of new materials that is to be intensified in line with the targets set by the 1988 national economic plan.

The 1988 national economic plan is to achieve further concentration of economic cooperation with the CEMA countries on the application of key technologies.

The combines, enterprises, and institutions have to ensure the solving of the agreed tasks with high performances. On this basis, the demand of the partner countries is to be consistently made the starting point of the design of product ranges for exports.

In implementing the 1988 national economic plan, the central state organs, the combines, enterprises, and institutions have to guarantee that the agreements concluded with the socialist countries are fulfilled punctually and in the required numbers and quality.

Guaranteeing all necessary conditions for fulfilling the obligations for delivery in line with all stipulations set down in the contracts means creating the preconditions to realize the planned purchases of raw materials and fuels, modern equipment, rationalization means, and technical and other consumer goods for the population.

The tasks resulting from implementing the projects of investment participation are to be fulfilled at the stipulated dates in line with the contracts and the required quality. This also concerns the tasks within the "Natural Gas Pipeline" central youth project.

In export to the nonsocialist countries, it is necessary to ensure stable sales. Product quality, favorably-priced production, and flexible market work are to be more effectively made the basis for the execution of the plan with regard to demanding targets for the development of export.

Economic and scientific-technological cooperation with the developing countries is to be expanded according to plan for mutual benefit in accordance with these countries' possibilities of delivery and purchase. Trade and economic relations with the capitalist industrial countries are to be further developed on the basis of mutual benefit.

The implementation of the 1988 national economic plan is to continue all measures that safeguard an economical and economically effective use of imports.

The GDR Council of Ministers is charged with comprehensively guiding the implementation of the tasks and targets of the 1988 national economic plan, which is aimed at implementing the decisions of the 11th SED Congress, and checking on their fulfillment. It has to ensure that the necessary decisions for safeguarding the proportionate and structural development of the national economy according to plan are made in time to reach high dynamism in national economic growth, productivity, and efficiency in all fields of the national economic reproduction process. Here the comprehensive management of economically decisive processes is to be perfected and the role of the banks and the credit system is to be increased. The central state organs and local people's representative bodies and their councils have to fully accept their responsibility in implementing the 1988 national economic plan in close cooperation with combines, enterprises, cooperatives, and institutions.

The GDR's People's Chamber turns to all citizens of the country asking them to use all their creative work, economic thinking, initiative, and energy to accomplish great achievements in socialist competition in order to fulfill the tasks and targets of the 1988 national economic plan in high quality. This is an important contribution to further implementing the main task in its unity of economic and social policy, to strengthening the international positions of socialism, to detente, disarmament, and to improving the international situation.

Interior Minister Praises People's Police

AU041038 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 31 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—At the turn of the year, Army General Friedrich Dickel, minister of the interior and head of the German People's Police, thanked the members and civilian employees for their dedicated work. Within the framework of the coordinated foreign policy of the Warsaw Pact states, the GDR has made an important contribution to the policy of the SED and

government aimed at the safeguarding of peace, dialogue, and cooperation. Thanks to the initiatives of the other socialist states, the influence of the forces of peace has been enhanced and the exacerbation of the international situation has been eased. The members of the People's Police have played an important role in successfully strengthening, consolidating, and increasing the authority of the international influence of the worker-peasant state, and above all in always ensuring reliable protection, the minister pointed out. Public order and security have to be guaranteed and increased in 1988 as well. This is an essential precondition for the citizens to work and live in peace and protection in the coming year, he stated.

CC Congratulates Defense Ministry Official

AU301540 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 28 Dec 87 p 2

[Message from the SED Central Committee to Lieutenant General Fritz Peter, chief of the Civil Defense Main Administration: "Congratulations to Lieutenant General Fritz Peter on His 60th Birthday; Greetings Message from the SED Central Committee"]

[Text] East Berlin (ADN-BZ)—In a message signed by General Secretary Erich Honecker the SED Central Committee has conveyed most cordial greetings and congratulations to Lieutenant General Fritz Peter on his 60th birthday. The message reads:

For 4 decades you have been working on behalf of our party in responsible positions of the Armed Forces of our worker-peasant state. You earned great respect for your untiring commitment as chief of the staff of a military district, of the staff of the ground forces, and for your activity in the staff of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces. You have always used all your strength for the education and training of class-conscious soldiers, noncommissioned officers, warrant officers, and officers who are loyal to the state.

As the head of the GDR Civil Defense you have made great personal contributions to the great dedication and commitment of its leading organs and operating forces. You devote special attention to the protection of the population and the national economy of our republic in the case of disasters, breakdowns, and other damage.

Your care and continued attention are devoted to the mobilization of the members and voluntary workers of the Civil Defense in the resourceful implementation of the social assignment which corresponds to the humanitarian character of our socialist society.

The GDR Council of Ministers also conveyed congratulations.

State Secretary Schneidewind Discusses AIDS

AU041519 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2-3 Jan 87 p 12

[Interview with State Secretary Prof Dr Ulrich Schneidewind by unidentified NEUES DEUTSCHLAND reporter in East Berlin; date not given: "AIDS—Current State, Tendencies, and Ways to Combat the Disease"]

[Excerpts] ND: Comrade State Secretary, according to information from the World Health Organization [WHO] of 2 December 1987, 71,751 AIDS cases in 128 countries have become known. Thus, within 4 weeks the number of registered AIDS cases rose by some 9,000. What are the AIDS statistics like in the GDR?

Schneidewind: At the beginning of December the number of registered AIDS cases remained constant: four persons have fallen ill, and two of them have died. The number of those infected with the AIDS virus who are not obviously ill but carriers of so-called antibodies stands at 35, which does not include a number of foreign citizens.

By the way, the figure of over 71,000 AIDS cases quoted by you, says little about the actual number of persons that have contracted the disease. These are only the registered cases. But there are many states which do not publish these figures or which can only make them available in a very incomplete manner because exact statistical surveys require a corresponding infrastructure. Taking this into account, WHO assumes that currently 100,000 persons have fallen ill and some 5 to 10 million have been infected with the AIDS virus. [passage omitted]

ND: Is it possible to undergo voluntary AIDS tests?

Schneidewind: Yes, it is possible. Citizens who want to make use of this possibility should consult a confidential medical adviser with regard to necessity and possibility. The consultation centers of the bezirke carry out the required blood tests.

ND: What happens if the person turns out to be infected?

Schneidewind: The testing of blood samples is anonymous. This means that the laboratory which receives the sample from the physician who has been consulted by the person does not know the name of the citizen to whom the blood sample belongs. In case an infection is diagnosed, the sample is retested so that erroneous diagnoses can be excluded. Enterprises, schools, or other third persons are not informed.

ND: Not even the partner of the person affected?

Schneidewind: This requires the consent of the person concerned. In the interest of the partner and the person concerned, a discussion with and care by the doctor who treats the persons are recommended, which has been accepted in all cases so far.

ND: But AIDS cases are notifiable.

Schneidewind: As in the case of other infectious diseases, AIDS cases have to be reported as well, but professional discretion has to be strictly observed by the doctors. Only the confidential physician chosen by the patient is informed. By the way, this form of registration observed in the GDR has internationally been assessed as advantageous for the patients as well as for combatting AIDS, and thus for the protection of the whole society. [passage omitted]

ND: As has already been stated, the GDR is in a favorable epidemiological position. How do we protect ourselves against the introduction of AIDS from abroad?

Schneidewind: It is common practice to cooperate on an international basis in preventing and fighting infectious diseases. Cooperation is carried out bilaterally on the basis of existing health agreements or other stipulations; it is carried out multilaterally on the basis of agreements between the CEMA member states and on the basis of WHO recommendations.

An agreement reached with the USSR and other socialist states provides that citizens who travel from one state to another and stay there more than 3 months must produce a certificate upon entry which shows that the persons seeking entry is free from contagious diseases. This includes AIDS. GDR citizens, for example, who want to stay in the USSR more than 3 months receive an informal certificate from their confidential doctor after the test has been completed. These certificates are recognized in the USSR on the basis of the principle of reciprocity.

If there is mutual interest, the GDR will also conclude corresponding agreements with other states.

Citizens from other states, who are temporarily staying in the GDR and have fallen ill or been infected with the AIDS virus will be returned to their home countries in coordination with the diplomatic representations of their countries. [passage omitted]

Krenz Speaks at Sports Federation Ceremony
AU071047 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 5 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—On Monday [4 January] Kleinmachnow Manfred Ewald, president of the GDR Gymnastics and Sports Federation [DTSB], opened the training course of the DTSB National Executive Committee for the chairmen of the kreis and bezirk leaderships and other leading cadres of the sports organization. The course focuses on the comprehensive exchange of experiences on the further implementation of the 11th SED Congress resolutions in the sphere of physical culture and sports.

At the start of the training course Egon Krenz, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, gave a speech. Referring to the fifth SED Central Committee session, he stressed that, knowing the close connection between the safeguarding of peace and the further shaping of the developed socialist society, the GDR is resolutely continuing the course of its dynamic development. Erich Honecker's New Year message has demonstrated to the world once again how constructively the GDR is working for the path of disarmament to be continued and how purposefully the unity of social and economic policy is being implemented for the well-being of the people.

"The citizens of the GDR entered the year 1988 with the firm certainty that also in the new year they can do their work under conditions of social security and can live under social protection," Egon Krenz pointed out. The successful advancement demonstrates why the power of the workers and peasants and of the entire people represents the highest achievement of all classes and strata in the GDR. Its stability continues to be the foundation for all successes. Aiming at safeguarding and further improving the material and cultural living standard of the citizens on the basis of the guidelines of the fifth plenary session and through high achievements in science, technology, and production, the development of the GDR is characterized by performance increase and continuity.

Touching upon the development of physical culture and sports, Egon Krenz emphasized that, in accordance with the 11th SED Congress resolutions, it is important to further enhance the role of the DTSB and to promote sports activities everywhere, as a vital necessity for more and more citizens, particularly for the young, and to support their efforts for performance in the field of sports.
23-28 December

AU311306 [Editorial Report] East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German from 24 to 30 December reports the following public appearances of GDR leaders (date of publication in parentheses):

The following GDR leaders attended the birthday ceremony for Erich Mielke, minister of state security, in East Berlin on 28 December: Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers; Horst Sindermann, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the GDR State Council, and president of the People's Chamber; and Politburo members and candidate members as well as secretaries of the SED Central Committee Hermann Axen, Hans-Joachim Boehme, Horst Dohlus, Werner Eberlein, Werner Felfe, Kurt Hager, Joachim Herrmann, Werner Jarowinsky, Heinz

Kessler, Guenther Kleiber, Egon Krenz, Werner Krolikowsky, Siegfried Lorenz, Guenter Mittag, Erich Mueckenberger, Alfred Neumann, Guenter Schabowski, Harry Tisch, Inge Lange, Gerhard Mueller, Margarete Mueller, Gerhard Schuerer, and Werner Walde. (29 December, p 1)

Willi Stoph and Werner Krolikowski presented congratulations from the SED Central Committee to Rudi Georgi, minister of machine tool and processing machinery building, on his 60th birthday in East Berlin on 28 December. (29 December, p 2)

Hermann Axen, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, presented congratulations from the SED Central Committee to Horst Brasch, vice president of the League for Friendship Among Peoples, on his 65th birthday in East Berlin on 23 December. (24 December, p 2)

Hans-Joachim Boehme, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Halle Bezirk leadership addressed construction collectives in Halle on 23 December. (24 December, p 2) Hans-Joachim Boehme also visited the VEB Wagon Construction in Dessau in the Halle Bezirk on 28 December. (29 December, p 1)

Gerhard Mueller, candidate member of the SED Central Committee and first secretary of the Erfurt SED Bezirk leadership, visited an Eichsfeld Border Troop unit in Erfurt on 23 December. (24 December, p 2)

Guenter Schabowski, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Berlin Bezirk leadership, informed the chairmen of the Berlin Bezirk associations of the friendly parties on the results of the eighth meeting of the Berlin SED Bezirk leadership and of the fifth SED Central Committee session in East Berlin on 23 December. (24 December, p 8) Guenter Schabowski also visited the "Friedrich Ebert" Electrical Apparatus Works in Berlin-Treptow on 28 December. (29 December, p 1)

Delegation Leaves For PDRY, Egypt

LD061732 Budapest MTI in English
1448 GMT 6 Jan 88

[Text] Budapest, January 6 (MTI)—Headed by Robert Ribanszky, secretary of the National Council of the Hungarian Patriotic People's Front, a People's Front delegation left Wednesday for the Arab Republic of Egypt and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen on the invitation of Egypt's National Progressive Unionist Party and Yemen's People's Defence Committees.

'Radical Changes' Encouraged for CEMA

LD070949 Budapest MTI in English
0908 GMT 7 Jan 88

["Mutual Interests Highlighted"—MTI headline]

[Text] Budapest, January 7 (MTI)—According to Hungary's position, the resolutions concerning the updating of plan coordination, expansion of direct relations between productive companies and research institutes and adjustment to world market prices mark only the initial stage in the development of CMEA integration. Hungary urges the elimination of obsolete technologies in the member countries and a more rapid adaptation of advanced production cultures. Speaking at the 43rd CMEA session in Moscow in October, the Hungarian prime minister stressed the need to strengthen the system of mutual interests, to give more importance to commodity and money relations and to reform the monetary, financial and credit system.

The CMEA countries account for more than half of Hungary's foreign trade turnover, with the Soviet Union sharing a third and the other European members 20 per cent. The bulk of Hungarian demand for strategic raw materials and energy is met by the CMEA countries, which are also the largest outlets for Hungarian processed goods, mainly engineering products. Although the long-term specialization schemes covering the machine, electronics and chemical industries offer a sense of security, they result in rigid production structures. It is a long-standing Hungarian concern to increase the efficiency of CMEA cooperation and diversify relations in the interest of greater flexibility.

At the latest CMEA session the Hungarian prime minister welcomed the chapter of the resolution which provided for the shaping of contractual prices on the basis of world market prices. On the other hand, he criticized the failure to reach concrete decision on monetary-financial issues. In the view of Hungary, radical transformation of the monetary-financial and credit system of cooperation is indispensable to the development of integration. Rendering the transferable rouble partially convertible would bring major progress even on short term, and in a longer perspective it is considered necessary for the CMEA to introduce a common currency convertible to other curriencies and later also to the national currencies of the member countries.

Hungary presses for a radical change in the organization and working method of the CMEA, and proposes to reduce the number of permanent CMEA organizations to a justified level, to curtail overdimensioned organizations and staffs and to check bureaucratism. It holds the position that in the future the CMEA bodies of representation should deal exclusively with priority fields of cooperation subject to state decision and the organization of strategic cooperative schemes.

The official view held in Hungary is that despite the different economic management systems of the member countries, the chances for the reform of CMEA cooperation now seem to be better than ever before.

Politburo Member Marothy Visits County Tolna

LD062349 Budapest Domestic Service
in Hungarian 1730 GMT 6 Jan 88

[Text] According to the latest data the Paks nuclear power station emits much less radiation than the permitted level. Laszlo Marothy, Politburo member, environment protection and water management minister, was briefed, among other things, on this. He visited Paks during the course of a 2-day visit to County Tolna.

As regards the environmental situation of the area, the county leaders told Laszlo Marothy that the water is undrinkable in five settlements in Tolna. In Szekszard, they have closed down the wells by the Sio, because the river is occasionally heavily polluted with chemical materials. According to plans, they will start building a storage unit in Simontornya for the temporary storage of dangerous wastes.

SAS To Renew Weekly Copenhagen-Warsaw Flight

AU061426 Paris AFP in English
2226 GMT 5 Jan 88

[Text] Copenhagen, Jan 5 (AFP)—Scandinavian Airline Systems (SAS) are to renew a weekly flight from Copenhagen to Warsaw which was suspended in 1981 after the Polish Government imposed martial law, the airline said here on Tuesday.

The flight will restart on January 16, an SAS spokesman added.

Diesel Fuel Shortage Disrupts Railroad

AU070811 Paris AFP in English
0752 GMT 7 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 7 (AFP)—A shortage of diesel fuel in Poland has disrupted trains, especially in the north of the country, since the start of the year, an official here said.

Nearly 100 diesel locomotives have been left idle, and on the roads huge queues form at a moment's notice when diesel deliveries arrive at filling stations.

On the Baltic coast railway authorities have enough diesel for just two days, when they normally have enough for 10.

The shortage, which began in September, has also hit tractors, leaving farmers with 800,000 hectares (nearly two million acres) of unworked land, while trawlers have been stuck in port so often trawlermen have caught only 75 per cent of their quota of fish.

Officials put the shortage down to distribution difficulties. Some districts have begun rationing. Diesel, unlike petrol (gasoline), is not normally rationed in Poland.

POLITYKA Cites Press on Sensitive Issues

AU071014 Warsaw POLITYKA in Polish
2 Jan 88 p 2

[From the press review]

[Text] GAZETA KRAKOWSKA on 11 December published an interview with Professor Dr Artur Sandauer by Izabela Pieczara. Here is an excerpt from it:

[Sandauer] He who has nothing to say saves himself by indulging in generalities, which is a matter of substance rather than of form. Generally speaking, we are bad orators. Very few people think that it is possible to prove anything. We are not interested in what others say. We are interested in who makes a speech and why. We regard arguments as an attempt to conceal the real issue. Very few people realize that making speeches is attempting to reach the truth. The Stalinist period is the culprit in this regard. During that period people did not ask whether a speaker was right. They were only interested in the position he spoke from. This method has now been taken over by the opposition, which continues to indulge in the subjective censorship we know from the past. For example, dissident critics ignore official literature just as in the past official criticism ignored oppositionist literature. The opposition has become Stalinist.

TYGODNIK PILSKI on 13 December published an interview with Colonel Jan Tomasz Szettel, commander of the Officer Automotive School in Piła, by Krzysztof Kalka. Here is an excerpt from it:

[Kalka] When you were a student, a dozen or so young men would fight for a single vacancy in your school, but now there is no stampede to get into officer schools.

[Szettel] This problem is not as acute in our school as it is in other schools. We still have too many candidates. I think that the situation you describe is a result of stereotyped ideas about the armed forces and of the great peace campaign throughout the world. We all talk about peace and disarmament. No wonder that young men planning their lives refuse to associate with the military.

ODRA, issue 11, 1987, published an article by Iwona D. Bartczak. Here is an excerpt from it:

According to a preliminary poll carried out by the Public Opinion Research Main Center under the title of "Me and My Job—1987," at least 20 percent of respondents work under stress. Another interesting finding is that only 6 percent of workers work the statutory 8 hours, 49 percent work up to 10 hours, and as many as 45 percent work over 10 hours a day. The 8-hour working day is just a memory from the days of the workers struggle against capitalist exploitation.

WPROST of 20-27 December published an interview with Stanislawa Gierek [wife of former PZPR First Secretary Edward Gierek deposed in 1980] by Marek Zieleniewski. Here is an excerpt from it:

[Gierek] There is nothing sensational I can tell your readers. My husband is a pensioner, one of many. Our neighbors can confirm this. My husband drives a small Fiat car, and people laugh at him because they think he is too big for it. But it was my husband who decided that the small Fiat should be produced in our country. This is a good car for us. It is economical.

[Zieleniewski] When could I meet Mr Edward Gierek?

[Gierek] My husband has not agreed to be interviewed. Perhaps you should try some other time. I am sorry I am unable to tell you exactly how long you will have to wait.

PRZEGLAD TYGODNIOWY of 20-27 December published an interview with Professor Dr Ryszard Bender, chairman of the Lublin Club of Catholic Intellectuals and Sejm deputy, by Leszek Bedkowski. Here is an excerpt from it:

[Bender] I have in mind the need to create "regulation opposition," one that can be somehow accommodated within the political system. If today people assume that a modicum of democracy would not harm socialism, would not this kind of opposition be an element of such democracy? Such opposition would express people's concerns in an orderly and even institutional way. Would this weaken the system that the left wing introduced as it took over power? I think that this would only strengthen the system and bestow new qualities on it. Political forces would be able to suggest to each other various concepts and subjects and hint at errors and shortcomings in good time. Our political system would become more efficient and effective. Besides, this "regulation opposition," which continues to evoke such emotions, could in time become normal and even unglamorous because democratic methods also can be monotonous, boring, and wearisome. As attested to by the West, regulation opposition induces people to lose interest in politics at times, leaving it to a narrow section of "gourmets," for whom politics is pleasure and fun.

WPROST of 20-27 December published an interview with Stefan Kisielewski, TYGODNIK POWSZECHNY journalist, by Janusz Michalak. Here is an excerpt from it: [Kisielewski] I would like capitalism to be reinstated in Poland, but the problem is how to do this. One day I met former Premier Cyrankiewicz [deposed in 1970] at some reception and asked him whether he still believed in socialism. He looked at me, smiled, and said: What is there for me to believe in?! How can you build capitalism in Poland without capital...? Well, I think that it would be possible to find capital. Some of it would have to be imported from abroad and some created by... ourselves. [It is not clear from the text whether all remarks are Cyrankiewicz's]

Briefs

Trade Union Figures

Warsaw, 31 Dec (TRYBUNA LUDU)—Over 7 million Poles belong to trade unions today. There are about 27,000 factory trade unions, and 135 national trade union structures, most of which are trade union federations. All the national structures belong to the OPZZ. The new trade unions also belong to the WFTU, whose leadership includes Poles. The OPZZ maintains contacts with over 90 foreign trade unions. [Summary] *[Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 31 Dec 87-3 Jan 88 p 4 AU]*

Foreign Travel Statistics

Warsaw, 3 Jan (Warsaw Domestic Service)—The number of Polish citizens travelling abroad rose last year. It is provisionally estimated that almost 5.2 million people travelled; that is, around 20 percent more than in 1986. We mostly travelled to the socialist countries. Around 1.6 million travelled to Western countries. Numerous travellers from other countries visited Poland. Last year we were host overall to about 4.8 million foreigners, including over 900,000 from Western states. The demands of the passport policy were further toned down. [Text] *[Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1500 GMT 3 Jan 88 LD]*

New Undersecretaries

Warsaw, 29 Dec (TRYBUNA LUDU)—On the recommendation of the minister of the domestic market, the chairman of the Council of Ministers has appointed the following to be under secretaries of state in this ministry: Andrzej Glowacki, Tadeusz Hyla, Jerzy Owczarek, and Czeslaw Skowronek. [Excerpt] *[Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 29 Dec 87 p 5 AU]*

Undersecretaries Named

Warsaw, 30 Dec (TRYBUNA LUDU)—The chairman of the Council of Ministers has appointed Professor Dr Stanislawa Borkowska and Dr Zbigniew Januszek new undersecretaries in the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy. [Excerpt] *[Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 30 Dec 87 p 2 AU]*

Israel's 'Repressive Actions' Criticized

AU071003 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0922 GMT 7 Jan 88

["An End Should Be Put to the Repressive Actions Against the Palestinian Population in the Occupied Arab Territories"]

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 7/1/1988—Public opinion in our country has followed with deep concern the latest developments in the occupied Arab land on the West Bank of the Jordan and in Gaza. Since early December the situation in the area has been aggravated by the intensification of the Israeli authorities' repressive actions against the Palestinian population. A number of detained persons were threatened with deportation. The measures considerably increased tension in the occupied Arab territories, drawing sharp protests around the world. The Security Council, meeting in an emergency session on January 6, unanimously passed a resolution calling on Israel to rescind its decision to deport any Palestinians from the occupied territories.

These positions are the evidence of deep concern over the disconsideration of the Palestinian people's legitimate aspirations. Israel should stop its aggressive actions against the Palestinian population in the occupied Arab land, abide by the Security Council resolution and the international conventions, including the 1949 Geneva Convention on the treatment of the civilian population in time of war.

The mounting tension in the occupied Arab territories and the resulting situation urge more resolute action for a political settlement of the Middle East problems. The seriousness of the events requires that efforts and actions be stepped up to negotiate a comprehensive, durable and just peace the Middle East leading to Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories it occupied in the 1967 war, to the resolution of the Palestinian people's right through the recognition of its right to self-determination—including to independent statehood—and giving integrity, sovereignty and security guarantees to all the states in the area.

Which makes it necessary that an international conference be convened under UN aegis that all interested parties should attend, including the PLO as sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, as well as Israel and the Security Council permanent members. The idea of such a conference for which Romania has worked steadfastly gets increasing international support. Many heads of state and government, politicians and public opinion representatives favour it. Talks, negotiated solutions are the only way to achieve peace in this part of the world where tension has been high for several decades, threatening the peaceful lives of people.

Mubarak Message on Republic Anniversary

AU071015 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 4 Jan 88 p 6

["International Topical Events": Cable sent by Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, to President Nicolae Ceausescu on anniversary of the Republic]

[Text] To Mr Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the SR of Romania,

On the anniversary of the Day of the Republic, I take particular pleasure in extending most sincere and cordial congratulations.

I want to take this opportunity to express great satisfaction with the relations of close friendship and cooperation that link our friendly countries. These relations are constantly strengthening and expanding in the interest of the Romanian and Egyptian peoples and of the cause of peace and international security.

Dear friend, please accept most sincere greetings, together with best wishes for good health and happiness and wishes for constant progress and prosperity to the friendly Romanian people.

With the highest regard and appreciation.

Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

Ceausescu Greets Mugabe on Election

AU051940 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 31 Dec 87 p 5

[Message by Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu to Robert Mugabe, president of the Zimbabwe African National Union—Patriotic Front, on his election as president of the Republic of Zimbabwe]

[Text] To Comrade Robert Gabriel Mugabe, president of the Zimbabwe African National Union—Patriotic Front [ZANU-PF] and president of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Harare,

Esteemed Comrade Robert Mugabe,

On your election as president of the Republic of Zimbabwe, I take great pleasure in extending to you—on behalf of the State Council of the SR of Romania, of the Romanian Government and people, and myself personally—warm congratulations and best wishes for success in fulfilling your highly responsible mission to consolidate the unity and national independence of the Zimbabwe people and fulfill their aspirations for free development.

I express the conviction that the ties of friendship and close cooperation between the SR of Romania and the Republic of Zimbabwe and between the RCP and ZANU-PF will further develop, to the benefit of our peoples and of the cause of peace, understanding, and cooperation in the world.

I wish you, dear Comrade Robert Mugabe, much personal health and happiness as well as peace, progress, and continuous prosperity to the friendly Zimbabwe people.

Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of the SR of Romania.

Comparison of PEC Examines Food Program

AU241430 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian on 22 December carries on page 1 a 580-word report on the "the meeting of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee chaired by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu." The SCINTEIA report has been compared with the Bucharest AGERPRES in English version published in the 22 December East Europe DAILY REPORT, page 54, revealing the following variations:

Paragraph two, last sentence reads in SCINTEIA-:...goods in 1988. [new paragraph]

It was stressed that the program was formulated in accordance with the decisions of the 13th RCP congress and of the RCP National Conference and reflects our party's and state's constant concern, and Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's personal concern with ensuring proper supplies for the people. In substantiating the program, account was taken of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's concept on improving the standard of living closely and directly linked with the development of the economy, the commodity production in general and with increasing the contribution of agriculture, as a basic branch, to the progress of the country in general and to raising the well-being of the whole nation. [new paragraph]

It was stressed...(supplying additional passage)

Paragraph three, last sentence reads:... to be delivered were established in compliance with...(rewording per SCINTEIA version)

Same paragraph, end of same sentence, reads:...the production process. [new paragraph]

The self-sufficiency programme...(deleting editorial notation)

Paragraph five, last sentence reads in SCINTEIA:...not be supplemented. [new paragraph]

The firm application of the animal slaughtering program per counties in accordance with the population that is to receive supplies from the state stocks, will ensure the required meat and meat products for each county. At the same time, measures will be taken to further increase meat and culinary products to increase the selection and variety of meals. [new paragraph]

The measures set... (supplying additional passage)

Paragraph nine, last sentence reads in SCINTEIA:...volume and quality. [new paragraph]

The PEC asked the government to pursue and examined weekly how ministries and people's councils are fulfilling their production tasks and making their deliveries of agricultural produce, foodstuffs, and industrial products to the market stock, as stipulated in the program for regional self-management and self-sufficiency. They are also asked to constantly supervise the activity carried out by the central and local bodies in order to honor their obligations.

At the same, it was stressed that the ministry of agriculture, the ministry of food industry and acquisition of agricultural products, the people's councils, and the state and cooperative agricultural units must take measures to ensure the fulfillment of the vegetable and animal production plan in order to meet the requirements of the new agrarian revolution and of the planned state stocks. Similarly, the work of contracting greater amounts of agricultural produce and foodstuffs from people's private farms must be intensified. [new paragraph]

Approving of the...(supplying additional passage)

Last paragraph, last sentence:...for raw materials. [new paragraph]

The PEC also solved current problems of the party and state activity. (supplying additional passage)

Aviation Industry Results Reviewed

AU061549 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1433 GMT 6 Jan 87

["Romania: The New Dimensions of Aeronautics"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 6/1/1988—The aviation industry, which has an old tradition in Romania, has grown considerably, especially in the past twenty years. Since 1968, when the decision was made to develop and diversify the aircraft production, a number of units have been updated or built in Bucharest, Brasov, Bacau, Craiova.

Investment in that industry is behind the more than 20-time growth of its production, the 16-time increase of the fixed assets and the more than 10 time rise in its personnel. The Romanian aviation industry has gone a long way from the light aircraft and gliders it used to make to its present 15 types of airplanes. The start was

made in 1969 when the Bucharest Aircraft Manufacturing Enterprise made the light passenger airship BN-2 Islander—under British license—of which more than 400 have been made so far. In 1974 the Romanian-designed IAR-827 airplane for agricultural purposes began to be manufactured. With a transport capacity of nearly one tonne, it was made at Brasov. Another type of light aircraft—IAR-823—that can serve various purposes, from training to tourism, was made at Brasov, too, where gliders and motorgliders are also manufactured that are known and bought by a growing number of countries—IS-28, IS-32, IS-39, and IS-28 M2 and IS-28 B2 respectively.

As far as helicopters are concerned, Romania boasts several world first—the light IAR-316 and medium IAR-330 made by the Brasov factory under French license, of which many were also exported. There are plans to assimilate more parts and develop new technologies comparable with those around the world—such as carbon-fibre reinforced blades from nonconventional materials as well as the launching of the multipurpose twin-engined KA-126.

A major success of the Romanian aviation industry was the manufacture, under British license, of the passenger jet aircraft ROMBAC 1-11 on the maiden flight of which 120 passengers were taken on a 2,500 km-trip in 1982 when it was rated as a notable world achievement in its class.

Many buyers of Romanian aircraft come from countries that have a long tradition. Romania has exported two thousand airships, helicopters, gliders and motorgliders that are appreciated for their good performance in operation.

Uzelac Suffers 'Acute Cardiac Arrest'

LD070845 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0748 GMT 7 Jan 88

[Text] Belgrade, 7 Jan (TANJUG)—According to the Directorate of the Military Academy of Medicine, the state of health of Milan Uzelac, president of the Bosnia-Hercegovina LC Central Committee Presidium is satisfactory following an acute cardiac arrest. Milan Uzelac will stay in hospital for further treatment until he recovers.

Interest Rates To Be 24 Percent Lower

LD061459 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1154 GMT 6 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 6 Jan (TANJUG)—Interest rates will be approximately 24 percent lower than they were in the last quarter of last year. Since 1 May 1984 this is the first sign that money, and of course credits, could become cheaper, at least for a time. [passage omitted]

Nevertheless, it is difficult to dispel the idea that there is increasingly less of such money, since, of the 15 billion dinars that comprise the total amount of savings of Yugoslavs at the end of last year, some 83 percent is in foreign currency. When one takes into account that 5 percent comprises resources which are in current accounts, or others similar, then it becomes clear that the national currency is entrusted increasingly rarely to the banks.

The extent to which the monthly calculation of interest rates will encourage dinar savings will probably be shown in the first quarter of this year. [passage omitted]

FEC Examines Proposals on Foreign Currency Law

LD061259 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1109 GMT 6 Jan 88

[Text] Belgrade, 6 Jan (TANJUG)—At its session today, presided over by Milos Milosavljevic, the FEC established the supplementary proposal on the resolution on achieving the country's social plan this year, and the supplementary proposal on draft changes and amendments to the law on foreign currency dealings.

With the aim of overcoming problems that arose on adopting the resolution on socioeconomic development for the country for this year, the FEC has, according to the Federal Secretariat for Information, established a proposal for draft changes and amendments to the law on foreign currency dealings. This would mean that in the first 3 months of 1988 payments for the means of reproduction of organizations of associated labor, the exports of which are greater than their imports, would be made at a determined level depending on the foreign currency earnings of the organization of associated labor and its rights for imports and payment in keeping with the country's balance of payments.

This proposal would authorise the FEC to ensure the execution of this stance, by its own decision, in keeping with the country's balance of payments, and the possibility would be included of carrying out intervention from the foreign currency reserves.

This proposal was established by the FEC following a consultation with the presidents of the Executive Councils of the republics and provinces and of the Yugoslav Economic Chamber. It is expected that delegations of the assemblies of the republics and provinces will make a decision on the proposal in the SFRY Assembly this week.

FEC Supports Moratorium on Nuclear Power

AU011634 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 24 Dec 87 p 1

[Unattributed Report: "Moratorium Until the 21st Century—The FEC Does Not Want Nuclear Power Stations Either"]

[Text] The FEC today informed the Chamber of Republics and Provinces that it supports the initiative of the Slovene Assembly in announcing a moratorium on the construction of nuclear power stations until the year 2000. The Federal Planning Institute has been entrusted with the task of making appropriate changes in the social plans and the long-term Yugoslav social plan.

We recall that the Chamber of Republics and Provinces entrusted the FEC with the discussion of the proposal from Slovenia as long ago as 24 July, while the Chamber took a definite stand on this issue in October.

Despite the 3-month delay, the FEC has concluded its discussion, observing that the initiative of the Slovene Assembly is in harmony with the "Draft SFRY Energy Development Plan Envisaging Development Until 2020," which is supported by the SFRY Presidency. It is stated in this program that by the end of the century electrical power requirements can be met from domestic resources (hydroelectricity, coal, and uranium for the needs of Krsko), and that there is therefore no need to build nuclear power stations in this period.

This program nevertheless differs from the above-mentioned social plans. The Yugoslav social plan for 1986-1990 anticipates that nuclear power stations will be built as an "integral part of our total energy development," while the long-term social plan for 1986-2000 states even more precisely that "research into nuclear fuels will be intensified, two nuclear power stations will be built, and the construction of two further stations with a capacity of 1,000 megawatts each will begin."

As we said, the plans will be changed, but the FEC has not stated when.

Federalization Gone to 'Disastrous Extent'
LD041327 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1755 GMT 3 Jan 88

[Excerpt] Titograd, 3 Jan (TANJUG)—Federalization within the LCY has become established to a disastrous extent, destroying and undermining it. While Tito was with us, surrounded by other people whose authority originated from the National Liberation War, everyone listened to the "center." Today, although all aspects of our policy are jointly discussed and adopted, people listen to the center only to the extent that it suits them. This is what Stipe Suvar, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, said in an interview to POBJEDA, which the paper published in its New Year's Day issue.

Asked about the extent that delegate relations have penetrated the LC, Suvar said that it would be impossible for the LCY not to observe the organizational aspect and autonomy of action of its integral parts, that is, the republican and provincial LCY—of course, within the limits outlined by the LCY program and statute.

Democratic centralism functions to a certain degree up to the level of the republic and province, with more emphasis on centralism than democratic, but at the level of Yugoslavia, it is almost nonexistent. In the LCY leadership, consensus is called for as a matter of fact. We in the LCY Central Committee are obliged to consult the leaderships in the republics and provinces about everything, while they do not have to consult us at all. We somehow succeed in agreeing about things on paper, but in practice everyone insists on having one's own way while denouncing others for being in the wrong and disrupting unity.

Under the present setup, both individuals and teams posted in the federation are forced to be at the service of national-bureaucratic monopolies in the republics and provinces. Those who suceed in freeing themselves from such shackles are few and far between.

In his view, in the period up to the 14th LCY Congress and at the congress itself all this would have to be thoroughly examined, but changes are also needed in the present situation. Of course, these changes will not imply "imposing" the authority of the LCY Central Committee or some kind of decreed and mechanical unity; on the contrary, the changes will come about by developing democratic relations and freedom to criticize and by electing people to leaderships at the Yugoslav level and federal posts on the basis of checks, recommendations, and evidence from within the entire LCY and country.

Asked about the outcome of the coming LCY conference, Stipe Suvar said he is worried that the present state of relations and awareness in the LC are not conducive to preparations that would lead to the eagerly desired and necessary outcome of the conference, making it into a force that will transform the LC's sluggish capacity for action into a growing one and help the 14th LCY Congress finally yield to consolidation and transformation.

Suvar insists that at the conference the Communists must concentrate on opening up prospects as tangible as possible for the development of society. The conference should be the first step in preparing for the congress.

We need a much clearer view about the prospects for socialism, both in the country and the world, and a practical capacity to work on these prospects without a pathological obsession with Croat or Serbian identity, with the Slovene syndrome, with Europeanization, Balkanization, and so on. Only then and within this context will the situation in Kosovo start changing for the better. [passage omitted]

BORBA Comments on Economic Resolution Debate
AU311745 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 22 Dec 87 p 2

[Djoko Kesic commentary: "Uncertain about Uncertain Matters"]

[Text] We have surely said goodbye forever to the peaceful, leisurely, once almost ritualistic, debate on economic policy measures and the program of development and interests of the republics and provinces in the Yugoslav Assembly. The last days of this year in the federal parliament have convinced us of this, where every session reminds us of an important chess match with an uncertain and dramatic ending: no one knows how much we are for a market and how much for a state planned economy, and there is the additional vagueness about whether the high judges are the political heads of the republics and provinces, the economy itself, or the delegates, that is the SFRY Assembly, as is written in the Constitution.

Such uncertainties and inconsistencies, which are not appropriate to a serious state organization, as a rule turn into an unpleasant boomerang. Precisely for this reason, the Yugoslav Assembly delegates and the FEC and the LCY Central Committee Presidium were greatly mistaken if they believed that the adoption of the Anti-Inflation Program and the circumstances in which it was adopted would be a quickly forgotten episode in the array of more important events.

To refresh our memories: The federal government put forward a necessary (was it really that?) program of measures for reducing inflation; the program was hazy, vague, and incomplete. The delegates wanted to know what they should adopt, for what was unclear to them was also unclear to the federal government itself. After two days of waiting and hesitating, and under pressure

from the authority of the country's political heads, the Anti-Inflation Program was adopted with the addition of a package of intervention measures by the FEC to be used for at least 6 months.

These days, however, in discussions on the resolution for the country's socioeconomic development for next year, it has been said in the delegates' discussion that no sign of a lowering of inflation could be discerned, and there have been comments like, "we do not need such resolutions," as well as remarks like, "the workers, the delegates, and even those who wrote the resolution do not believe in it."

And then the boomerang: "The FEC considers such appraisals of the resolution to be delegates' inconsistency and dualism." This same chamber "recently adopted a program of anti-inflation measures that are being developed further in the resolution, but now totally different appraisals are to be heard!" This was told to the Federal Chamber delegates by Milos Milosavljevic, the FEC vice president.

After these words the delegates and FEC members swallowed their uncertainty and said nothing. Also, regardless of the fact that the resolution proposal was no clearer to them after this sermon from the federal government vice president, they received no guarantee that the unclear working out of unclear matters would lead to a way out of the crisis. Perhaps now the delegates would rather withdraw their spoken support for the Anti-Inflation Program? Perhaps at this moment the FEC would rather choose another way that does not go through the Party Presidium, which is altogether cold comfort for the delegates from Slovenia and Croatia, who voted against this program.

In assembly discussions, the Chamber of Republics and Provinces asks that the constitutional position of the Assembly in relation to the FEC and the ever frequent communication between the government and state and party presidiums by passing the Assembly, once again be clarified. But time waits for no man. FEC representatives defend the unclear resolution with generalized formulations and the regular reservation that in fact it is an elaboration of the Anti-Inflation Program. All general questions receive their answer. How is one to explain, however, that an agricultural country now imports milk? There is no answer to specific questions. The only explanation is that it is all a part of our varied political folklore, in which the place and the role of the SFRY Assembly may be defined by Delegate Ratko Vukcevic's witty remark: "During the discussions, all the documents that reach the Assembly may be shifted by two percent at most in the important material matters. After a 6-hour session of a chamber, it is not to be ruled out that the delegates may adopt some document on Taiwan."

Taiwan is far away.

We are here on an island of our own crisis.

Milosevic Named 'Personality of Year'

AU071001 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 4 Jan 88 p 13

[Aleksandar Tijanic commentary "Personality of the Year: Slobodan Milosevic" reprinted from NEDELJNA DALMACIJA—no date given]

[Text] In times when Serbia is discovering that "real socialism is the highest stage of being undeveloped" (Ensensberger) and that the crisis is acquiring the form of a permanent disintegration of the republic and the nation, it was dialectically logical to expect the rise of Slobodan Milosevic. Launched by plebiscite-type acclamations of the people, this politician undoubtedly represents the most significant personality of this, in many ways, controversial year. For, Milosevic is the only one of his colleagues of the "infamous" political profession who mustered the courage to undertake things that do not fit into current theory and practice.

For the first time—and it was according to his blueprint—one replaced the head of the country's largest party organization (Dragisa Pavlovic). Moreover, it was the first time that the chief of a republican state (Ivan Stambolic) was replaced in the same way. However, it was also the first time that the apathy of the Serbian nation, which had lasted for many years, turned into a "Serbian tide," raising the question of whether or not Milosevic has a firm grip on the helm or is only tied to the mast, like Odysseus, in order to be able to resist the call of national mermaids. Superficial analysts have it easy: They have proclaimed Milosevic a dogmatist and Serbs a nation eternally searching for wrong models, and, to them at least, the case is clear. Unfortunately, the reality is more complex.

Milosevic's political biography includes two different periods. The boundary between the two was his appearance in front of 15,000 Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo Polje. Before that, everything about him breathed calm and had the characteristically inconspicuous color of a politician who had been promised a relatively limited career. A personal friend of Ivan Stambolic and a member of his closest team, he had tied his political destiny to Stambolic, until the moment when he concluded that Serbia—which had complained for years that the Federation was indifferent to its problems—is in fact lamenting its own inability to act. Certain that Kosovo's political problems reflect the feeling of abandonment harbored by Serbs and Montenegrins and that they have thereby become essentially psychological problems, when addressing the mass who "cried through the anthem," Milosevic touched something that used to be a taboo-topic for many years: Serbian national pride! Saying that "it was never a characteristic of the Serbian and Montenegrin peoples to become demobilized when they should be fighting or to become demoralized when times are difficult," Milosevic called on the Slavs to remain on "their land," in their

houses, on their fields and in their gardens, and with their memories, because with their departure they would "shame their ancestors and disappoint their descendants."

The reaction was tempestuous and immediate. He has become the most popular Serbian politician. A well-known Kosovo poet has written a poem about "the sun gilding his rough hair," and most prominent heads of Kosovo households have stated that "2,000 Kosovo Serbs are behind Sloba." On the other side, remarks by the unofficial Albanian "secret public" that his speech has "bred fear" are on the increase. It has become obvious that in Serbia someone has appeared who has denied the "position of the nation's political patriarch" to Stambolic, claiming that the more "wings" a party has the more difficult it finds it to "fly." These are not the times that would tolerate sluggishness and nuances, and this is not the period in which every long debate really means democracy. Having felt that, with the energetic nature of a Montenegrin, Milosevic raised the question of Serbia's self-confidence!

Having made the question of unity a hallowed one, he unscrupulously "amputated" Stambolic's group, which was obviously in the minority. He solved the problem of credibility and legitimacy through plebiscite-type support. He was the first party leader to be inaugurated as the people's leader and not as head of the "workers class vanguard"; and he defined his program as being one of an "energetic approach and unity" contrary to the other school which advocated "dialogue and democratization." Mass support strengthened Milosevic's position at the top of the federal party, along with the simultaneous increase in suspicion toward the level of national consensus achieved among the Serbs, a fear of the unknown epidemics, possible "Serbian radicalism," and, finally, a search for the aims of redefining a possible and a new Serbian national ideology. The very fact that despite numerous and harsh public remarks about Milosevic the party leaders still have not discussed "events in Serbia" and "treatment of minorities"—and it is not certain that they are going to discuss them—already confirms that they are also aware of the fact that this one is not a one-dimensional question.

Milosevic does not give interviews gladly; he possesses a strong feeling of self-control. He has proved that he knows that in professional politics even closest friendships are of limited duration. He speaks clearly and "off the cuff" even when reading. He has the demeanor of a man who looks down on people taller than himself. It is an irrefutable fact, however, that he has pawned his "political head," promising to his people results and changes! But there also remains the fact that, irrespective of the method of separation from the "Mensheviks," he has failed so far to stand up and oppose the atmosphere of fear spread by the people who have accepted this situation as a chance to be someone without doing anything. For, as Rousseau used to say, if citizens lose their will, then fear and flattery turn voices into applause, so there are no longer any debates, but worship or anathema! There exists a danger of introducing "liturgical formulas" into party life: If that happens and if some Communists fall silent and others are proclaimed "bad Serbs" because they have different opinions, then the conflict in the top Serbian leadership will be reduced only to a series of exciting scenes meant for the kind of people who remain at the bottom "in any regime"!

SFRY 'Most Heavily Armed' Country in Europe

LD061433 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1428 GMT 6 Jan 88

[By Srboljub Manoljlovic]

[Text] Belgrade, January 6 (TANJUG)—Several people were injured during the New Year's night only in Belgrade by stray bullets fired within a shooting spree to mark it traditionally and noisily by singing and shooting.

The worst to fare was Sofija Licenoski, 40, hit in the neck by such a stray bullet in her new Belgrade flat and seriously wounded. In this case, the culprit was found and arrested. He is a retired officer, Sofija's neighbour from the same street, who marked the start of the New Year 1988 with a burst of gunfire from his balcony.

At the turn of the year, of the past year which was a heavy one for the Yugoslavs and of the new year which also is not likely to be an easy one, Belgrade was echoing with shots and explosions. Guns and rifles were blazing away, bullets from submachine guns were whizzing past, petards were exploding thuddingly... There were like shooting sprees in many other cities and towns. A few years ago, a stray New Year's bullet killed a TANJUG translator.

Manys Yugoslavs seem to have literally grasped the defence doctrine on the people in arms developed during the 1941-45 four-year people's liberation war. They simply armed themselves to the teeth. The count has it that more than two million out of 23 million Yugoslavs have permits to possess arms. Every fourth family has at least a firearm, the press estimates. Some even claim that Yugoslavia's population is the most heavily armed in Europe.

In some parts of Yugoslavia, overwhelmingly in the southern ones which were ruled by the Turks several centuries, the love for arms was inherited from a faraway past. At those times, to possess arms often was a condition for survival. Now, it is a part of a tradition hard to eradicate.

Yugoslavs like to mark many family festivals and fetes with shooting on the occasion of weddings, their patron saint's days, when a child is born, when seeing off their sons going to serve their military service terms... During a new year's night all their shots form an outburst of shooting—with tragedies like this time.

The Yugoslavs are not free like the Americans to buy a firearm like any other goods, but there is an easy way to go for a permit to possess it. Even easier than the one coming to a driving permit. To be issued a driving permit a certificate of health is needed signed by several specialists. A citizen willing to have a firearm needs only to ask so from the militia (police) with a statement of agreement from his local community in which he lives. And this statement is easy to get. Yugoslavs come to their hunting guns, revolvers and other firearms legally or illegally. Those permitted to do so buy their double-barrelled hunting rifles and carbines. Pistols and revolvers, Yugoslav- or foreign-made at shops selling sports and camping equipment. Illegal ways are more intricate.

Within the past few years customs officers have confiscated 10,000-odd pistols at the border crossings, and the Interpol informed the Yugoslav police that Yugoslavs have brought abroad even as many as 30,000 revolvers and rifles abroad in the past ten years.

A possibility is being intimated now of tightening terms for issuing permits. People who would haughtily have fun by shooting at the time of holidays should be punished much more severely.

For all that, the two million Yugoslavs possessing firearms are, anyhow, more or less peace-loving people and rarely draw their firearms at their fellow citizens. In terms of criminal murders, Yugoslavia ranks among the last countries in Europe. In the past 15 years, it has had 49 death sentences of which 43 for murders. In Slovenia, Yugoslavia's most developed constituent republic, nobody has been sentenced to death in these 15 years.

So, for the overwhelming number of the "armed Yugoslavs" their firearms are not a means for settling their personal accounts or for crime.

After all, in terms of personal safety and law and order Yugoslavia ranks among the safest countries in Europe and in the world.

Four Kosovo Albanians Sentenced to Jail Terms

AU070934 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 29 Dec 87 p 8

[A.M. report: "Arrogant Behavior Also Before the Court"]

[Text] The trial concluded yesterday in Pristina District Court of four persons from Kacanik and Djeneral Jankovic. They were declared guilty of activity from positions of Albanian nationalism and irredentism in forming the hostile illegal organization called "War Cry."

Ibrahim Curri (20), from Djeneral Jankovic, the leader of this group, was sentenced to 3 years, while Agim Dauti (20), student from Kacanik; Mehmet Ballazhi (20), student from Djeneral Jankovic; and Nexhat Ballazhi (20), also from Djeneral Jankovic, were each sentenced to 2 years. They were pronounced guilty of the crime of association for hostile activity under Clause 136, Paragraphs 1 and 2, of Article 114 of the SFRY Penal Code.

The charges leveled by Reshat Millaku, deputy public prosecutor, stated that the first two accused formed the hostile illegal group called "War Cry" in September 1985, together with Eset Malsiu and Hysret Kycyku, to operate according to the platform of the illegal organization called "Marxist-Leninists of Kosovo." Ibrahim and Agim, who assumed the pseudonyms Ilir and Miti, later recruited the accused Mehmet and Nexhat Ballazhi to the group. According to the charges, they held their meetings in Kacanik. The charges stated that the accused compiled 40 pamphlets calling for demonstrations. These pamphlets were not distributed. Agim was entrusted with their distribution; however, frightened that the group would be discovered, he burnt them.

The four accused, who have been detained since 1620 on 21 September, categorically denied the charges during yesterday's trial before the bench of five, headed by Mejdi Dehari.

The judge asked why they had admitted the charges of criminal activity to the investigator, and they replied that "they had been forced." The first two accused also supported the reactionary slogan "Kosovo—Republic" during yesterday's court session.

Mojsov Given Award From Cement Collective

LD291925 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] We will report on the session of the Croatian Assembly and other highest delegate bodies of the republics and provinces after a report from Split, where today Lazar Mojsov, president of the SFRY Presidency, has been presented with the award of the First Workers' Council with Charter for exceptional services in the construction and development of socialist self-management. This highest award from the working people of the Dalmacija Cement Collective in Solina, was presented at a formal meeting of the workers' council in connection with the 38th anniversary of the foundation of the first self-managing organ. Here is a report by Vedrana Krstic:

[Krstic] At a formal meeting of the workers' council, gold, silver, and bronze awards of the First Workers' Council were presented to workers of the Solina-based Dalmacija Cement Collective, as special social recognition of their many years of successful work and their exceptional contribution to the development of self-management and socialist self-managing relations. The highest award, the award of the First Workers Council with Charter was presented to Lazar Mojsov, president of the SFRY Presidency, who, expressing his thanks for this high award, used the opportunity to indicate the key problems of the further development of our society:

[Begin Mojsov recording] We are determined to emerge from the period of stagnation and finally, with resolute and united actions, break more rapidly and effectively all the basic causes of the crisis. In 1987 and in the years ahead, we are faced with a whole series of important tasks, above all, in the promulgation of agreed measures of economic and political stabilization and in developing the economic and political system. The way out of our own economic difficulties are, above all, to be found in greater, more intensive and more efficient work, which implies the reduction of reproduction and other costs of business operations, the reduction of state and general social administrative costs, the more rapid activation of the reserves and the greater use of capacities and work time, saving, more quality production and, of course, greater exports. We must adapt these tasks not only to the measures of economic policy but also to our behavior. The notion is, in fact, still widespread that the main scope for the increase in production and productivity, is primarily in new and large investments, while many see the solution of their problems exclusively in increasing prices. At the same time, too little use is made of the possibilities of self-managing income-based integration and association, the advantages of small businesses and their firm association with associated labor. The original system for self-managing relations that we are building is understandably leading to a situation where greater emphasis on concrete solutions in the political and economic system sometimes shows itself to be inappropriate, or not able to be confirmed in practice. It remains for us, however, to draw true lessons from this. If we only debate them from one day to the next and criticize them—and I would say, it is not seldom that people go too far in this—we will achieve only a contrary effect, and we will endanger what is good both as experience and practice. Likewise, the repetition of general phrases about the need (?for the activation) of socialist self-management, which are not followed up by actions, is only pure demagogy and does not lead to progress but fossilizes bureaucratic relations and (?I would say) leads to further stagnation and retrogression. [end recording]

[Krstic] The award of the First Workers' Council with Charter, which is otherwise presented to prominent individuals and collectives who have deserved it for developing self-management and the production results achieved, has before now been presented to Josip Broz Tito, Vladimir Bakaric, Mika Spiljak, Sergej Kraigher, Milka Planinc and the collectives Prvi Maj from Pirot and the Institute in Crvena Zastava, Kragujevac.

TANJUG Reports Airports Closed by Fog

LD021105 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0915 GMT 2 Jan 88

[Text] Belgrade, 2 Jan (TANJUG)—Thick fog, which has been affecting many places for 3 days now, has been causing the most damage to air transportation.

As of this morning, according to the information given by the operational center of the Yugoslav Airlines, airports are closed in Belgrade, Zagreb, Sarajevo, Maribor, Osijek and Zadar. Those that are open are not operational in practice, because most planes are stuck in Belgrade and Zagreb.

A large number of flights have been canceled. The Yugoslav Airline's biggest problem at the moment is the flight to Australia scheduled for yesterday.

Airports are packed with people, most of whom are Yugoslavs temporarily employed abroad, who will not be able to turn up for work on time because of the fog.

The railways are running according to schedule, but thick fog has paralyzed work at the Makis marshalling-yard near Belgrade, where trains are normally assembled for dispatch in various directions.

Mamula Addresses Retiring Generals

LD292050 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1200 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, 29 Dec (TANJUG)—Branko Mamula, federal secretary for national defense and admiral of the fleet, today with his colleagues received generals and admirals of the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA), who are ending their active military service on 31 December of this year on the basis of the law on service in the SFRY Armed Forces, in the JNA club in Belgrade. Expressing his thanks for their great contribution to the building up of the military and to the strengthening of our armed forces and of the defense and self-defense system of the country, in a warm and comradely atmosphere, Admiral Mamula, among other things, expressed the conviction that as consistent fighters for the party line and Tito's course, they would actively, resolutely, and steadily continue their revolutionary activity in any environments where they find themselves. At the end of the warm and cordial meeting, the federal secretary for national defense presented medallions bearing the figure of Marshal Tito to the generals and admirals who are ending their active military service, as well as decorations and other marks of recognition.

On behalf of those present, Colonel General Zorko Canadi thanked Admiral Mamula and his colleagues.

Presidency Promotes Generals, Admirals

AU031638 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 22 Dec 87 p 1

[Text] Belgrade 21 Dec (TANJUG)—By a decree of the SFRY Presidency, the following lieutenant colonel generals have been promoted to the rank of colonel general: Josip Gregoric, Anton Lukezic, Stevan Mirkovic, Svetislav Popovic Martin Spegelj, and Avgust Vrtar; the following major generals to the rank of lieutenant colonel general: Blagoje Adzic, Milos Bajcetic, Ivan Ban, Zvonko Jurjevic, Mladenko Maksimovic, Jovan Matovic, Zivota

Panic, Ivan Plese, Bogdan Rencelj, Milan Ruzinovski, Tomislav Simovic, Veso Srdic, Zarko Vujasinovic, and Vukoslav Vujicic; and Rear Admiral Stane Brovet to the rank of vice admiral.

The following colonels have been promoted to the rank of major general: Aleksandar Boskovski, Mladen Bratic, Dusan Budimir, Jerko Crmaric, Kosta Colovic, Miomir Dzankic, Rade Djilas, Mihajlo Djuknic, Ahmet Hodzic, Savo Jankovic, Tomislav Jovanovic, Vukasin Kristic, Angel Oncevski, Mihajlo Pavicic, Boco Perevski, Rade Polic, Aleksandar Radovic,, Branko Stankovic, Zoran Stojkovic, Miras Stozinic, Mico Saulic, Nebojsa Tica, Teodor Vracarevic, Obrad Vucurovic, Zarko Vujicic, Ciril Zabret, and Milovan Zorc; and Captains Martin Matosevic and Djuro Pojer to the rank of rear admiral.

U.S. Ambassador Says Relations 'Friendly'

AU051524 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian
4 Jan 88 p 7

[TANJUG report: "Successful Relations Between the SFRY and the United States"]

[Text] Belgrade, 3 Jan—In an interview broadcast by Voice of America, John Scanlan, the U.S. ambassador in Belgrade, said, among other things, that last year American-Yugoslav relations had developed in a traditional, friendly, and mutually useful atmosphere.

In reply to questions on the economic situation in our country, Scanlan said that the United States was interested in offering Yugoslavia all possible help to stabilize its economy and speed up economic growth. In this respect, he said it was encouraging that the Yugoslavs spare no effort to solve the foreign debt problem and to stabilize the economy.

Economic Chamber Discusses Trade With Albania

AU291505 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian
15 Dec 87 p 6

[Unattributed report: "Turnover of Goods in Decline"]

[Text] Belgrade—Next year, Yugoslavia and Albania are counting on an exchange of goods of $90 million. A protocol was signed recently on this, and yesterday members of the section for cooperation with Albania of the Economic Chamber of Yugoslavia were informed that that country had said it was willing to sign an agreement with Yugoslavia on local border traffic.

In deciding for the first time to "open up" local border traffic to a neighboring country, Albania has earmarked five districts for this business: Shkoder, Qafe e Thanes, Korce, Kukes, and Peshkopi. It has yet to be confirmed which Yugoslav towns will be participating in this trade.

According to first joint estimates, this form of exchange should reach at the most 20 percent of the value of trade realized in 1 year. Although the agreed $90 million (in both directions) of trade for next year is a more modest sum than for this year ($126 million), doubt was felt even at yesterday's meeting of our businessmen that this would be achieved, as the results so far for this year point to a fall in trade. For the first 10 months, trade reached a value of around $57 million (of which we exported $28.5 million) which is about 20 percent less than last year.

There are several reasons for this, but the key ones include the drought in Albania that delayed expected electricity supplies to Yugoslavia, which along with chromium ore is Albania's basic export item. There are also difficulties with some "Albanian" prices and delivery deadlines. On the other hand, our individual export items, primarily railroad services are not paid for on time. In this respect, the Albanians already owe us about $5 million.

Since the reasons for the stagnation of trade include the poor choice of goods, primarily from the Albanian side, both sides in the trade negotiations that have just finished discussed the possibility of setting up a mixed committee that would deal more with this. Albania suggested that barter arrangements be used for those items that are not on the lists of goods. The Albanians offered the use of a forest complex for lumbering on condition that our side build a road of about 3 kilometers to reach the forest. The possible sale of Albanian oil derivatives was also discussed. It was agreed that both sides would meet in April next year to lengthen the "list" of goods to be exchanged with the aim of increasing joint trade.

Turkey Notes Invitation to Balkan Conference

TA301612 Ankara ANATOLIA in Turkish
1455 GMT 30 Dec 87

[Text] Ankara (AA)—Ambassador Inal Batu, Foreign Ministry spokesman, said that the SFRY Government has extended an official invitation to Ankara and the other capitals in the region for the convocation of a Balkan conference.

In his news conference today, Batu announced that the invitation proposes holding the conference in Belgrade between 24 and 26 February. Batu noted:

"During Mr Halefoglu's official visit to Belgrade, we declared our welcome in principle for such a conference. The question now is the agenda of the conference. The information we have indicates that the agenda will not be rigid. In other words, the Yugoslav authorities will not prevent participating foreign ministers from raising the issues they want. Our views on the agenda have not changed. As you know, during the conference, we want Balkan countries to exchange views with the aim of developing their political, economic, humanitarian, and

cultural relations. We have not been led to believe that an agenda ruling out the exchange of views on these issues is being prepared. On the contrary, we believe that the procedure to be followed will allow each country to raise any issue it wants. We will respond to the official invitation, and I do not believe that this will take long."

Rozic Holds Talks With Malta's Farrugia

LD061452 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1259 GMT 6 Jan 88

["Pool" item]

[Text] Belgrade, January 6 (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia and Malta have much in common both being European, Mediterranean and non-aligned countries, therefore both sides have a natural need and readiness to promote mutual relations and cooperation as much as possible, Assembly of Yugoslavia President Marjan Rozic and Malta's Parliament Speaker Jimmy Farrugia underscored here today.

The Maltese House of Representatives delegation, headed by Farrugia, is visiting Yugoslavia at the invitation of the Assembly of Yugoslavia.

The talks underscored the common wish to promote bilateral, parliamentary, economic, touristic, cultural and educational and other cooperation as well as activities in the Mediterranean region, within the group of neutral and non-aligned countries, in the CSCE, United Nations and Movement of Non-Alignment.

Both sides assessed that the two countries' economic ties lagged behind their very developed political relations and pointed out the need to invest additional efforts to remove the imbalance.

Krunic Sends Congratulations to Castro

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[Text] On the occasion of the anniversary of the Cuban revolution victory, Bosko Krunic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, sent congratulations on his own behalf and on behalf of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, to Fidel Castro, the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, in which he expressed best wishes for new successes in the construction of socialism and for the prosperity of the friendly Cuban people.

Briefs

National Employment Statistics

4 Jan (TANJUG)—According to the Federal Institute of Statistics, 6,863,000 Yugoslavs were employed at the end of last year in the public and private sectors. In terms of numbers, the job provision program was 2.2 percent over last year, but only a modest 0.2 percent over in relation to the expectations expressed in the resolution on the country's socioeconomic development. Nonetheless, the experts are concerned rather than satisfied. They point out the unproductive nature of the employment policy that goes beyond the realistic requirements of associated labor. The majority of new vacancies were created for reasons of solidarity and under the "pressure" of the number of unemployed people. The fact that last year industrial output in industry registered a 2.2 percent slump confirms that social reasons were considered rather than those of economic logic. Employment communities in the country had 1,077,000 unemployed people on their books. The reduction in relation to the previous year amounts to a negligible 0.9 percent. [summary] *[Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0629 GMT 4 Jan 88 LD]*

Slovene Employment Statistics

Ljubljana, 4 Jan (TANJUG)—There were exactly 840,592 employed workers in associated labor in Slovenia at the end of last year. This means that between January and October 1987, the employment rate was 1.3 percent above the same period the year before. Only the water resources and construction industries showed no increases. [Summary] *[Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1306 GMT 4 Jan 88 LD]*

Tourism Earnings

Belgrade, January 5 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav tourism in actual fact ended 1987 with around 3.18 billion dollars in foreign earnings, or nearly double the official sum, according to the Zagreb Institute for Tourism. The Zagreb Institute arrived at the above figure by calculating the total spending of the 8.9 million foreign guests and travellers and the earnings of the domestic transportation firms extending services to foreign guests. The relevant data were obtained through a poll of foreign tourists. The official figures, according to which the 1987 foreign earning (?from) tourism stood at around 1.6 billion dollars, are based on the reports of hotels, tourist federations, banks and exchange offices. According to the official estimates, Yugoslavia's foreign earnings from tourism in 1988 are to stand at 1.75 billion dollars and according to the estimates of the Zagreb institutue, at over 3.6 billion dollars. [Text] *[Belgrade TANJUG in English 1247 GMT 5 Jan 88 LD]*